

Seven Sayings From The Cross

1. **“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”** *Matthew 27:46*
 - Comment on the holiness of God (Psalm 22:1-3) and how Jesus was bearing our sins in His body on the tree. (1 Peter 2:24)
2. **“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”** *Luke 23:43*
 - Comment on the promises of God to the faithful. (John 3:16)
 - *Side point:* All about the timing of the event, being before Jesus’ death and before the Great Commission (See www.MyPreachingPen.com for more)
 - *Side point:* All about Hades and its two parts (See also “The Rich Man and Lazarus” from Luke 16, and the teachings about Jesus’ brief journey to Hades in Acts 2:31/Psalm 16:9-11.)
3. **“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”** *Luke 23:34*
 - Compare Stephen’s prayer in Acts 7:60.
 - Comment on sins of ignorance. Note 1 Corinthians 2:6-8 re: the rulers’ ignorance, remembering that sins of ignorance are still condemned. (Acts 4:25-28; Acts 17:30)
 - Compare Paul’s persecuting the church, Acts 26:9 with 23:1; 1 Timothy 1:12-13
 - Comment on the difference between the offended party being willing to forgive (for his own sake, both in terms of avoiding bitterness, and so that he, himself, can be forgiven by God – Matthew 6:14-15; Mark 11:25), and God actually extending forgiveness (contingent on the sinner repenting – Luke 17:3-4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Acts 2:38; etc.).
4. **“Woman, behold your son!; Behold your mother!”** *John 19:26-27*
 - Comment on relationships within the body of believers (Cf. Mark 10:29-31)
5. **“I thirst!”** *John 19:28*
 - Comment on the humanity of Jesus and the passion of His suffering.
6. **“It is finished!”** *John 19:30*
 - Comment on the eternal purpose which God completed in Christ (Ephesians 1:4; 3:10, 11) at just the right time (Galatians 4:4-5), and according to the purpose which Jesus himself had proclaimed (Matthew 5:17).
7. **“Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’”** *Luke 23:46*
 - Comment on the return of the spirit to God upon our deaths (Ecclesiastes 12:7)
 - Comment on Jesus’ trust in God at the time of His death – this trust can be ours if we live by faith in Jesus.