

If Jesus had not forgiven man, man would be eternally condemned. But now, man can be saved through repentance and belief in Jesus Christ.

“But Jesus, turning to them, said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts which never nursed!’”

LUKE 23:28-29 (KJV)

Message of the Cross – 2. Please read Part One, 10 March, 2008
[IDD](#), International Daily Devotional Archives.

Message of the Cross (continued). **Luke 23:32-43**

1. **Jesus Looks Down:** When the Lord looked down, He saw all His persecutors, crucifiers and helpless sinful men. Then, He said, **“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do!”** Instead of curses and condemnation that man deserved, Jesus prayed the Father to forgive man in order to reconcile man to his Creator. What a gracious Lord our Lord Jesus Christ is! If He had not forgiven, man would have been eternally condemned but now, man can be saved through repentance and belief in Jesus Christ. Remember He had said, **“If I be lifted up, I shall draw all men unto me.”**
2. **Jesus Looks Sideways:** As He looked on His left and right side, one of the criminals rebuked his fellow criminal who was mocking Jesus. After which, the criminal, in penance (repentance) asked Jesus to remember him in His kingdom. Jesus said, **“I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”** **Luke 23:42-43, John 3:16.** The Bible says, **“Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”** **Romans 10:13.**
3. **Jesus Looks Forward:** He saw the efficacy of the Blood He had to shed with excruciating pain as men mocked and spat at Him, whipped Him with whips stuffed with sharp, deadly objects, and His pain included a crown of thorns forced on His head. Jesus could only see souls drawn to Him. Hence, He focused on the Aftermath of the cross which is the Joy of Salvation which would

be delivered to men from satanic bondage and oppression
Hebrews 12:2.

JESUS IS LOOKING; JESUS LOOKS



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