

III. What will change our hearts like His.

Paul remembered Jesus' suffering for him.

So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. 10 That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. 6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, 8 he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Philippians 2:5-8

What is the attitude? It's Humility. It's service.

Jesus said to us in Mark's gospel...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:43-45

Remember that Jesus saved you by taking insults without paying them back. Jesus saved you by being misunderstood and shamed.

Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1b-3



What the Mocking of Jesus Says About Us and God Mark 15:16-32

I. What the mocking of Jesus on the cross says about our hearts:

A. It shows us the absolute hostility we have to the magnitude and exclusivity of His claims.

"So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, 30 come down from the cross and save yourself!" Mark 15:29,30

Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Mark 15:32

Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" 33 "We are not stoning you for any good work," they replied, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God." John 10:32,33

But in general, scholars don't spend their lives in the company of historic figures who they openly despise, but these (Liberal) New Testament scholars detest and despise Jesus Christ." Author Anne Rice From her Afterward in "Christ the Lord Out of Egypt" novel.

Our culture despises the claims of Christ because it forces us

into an _____ or _____ decision.

I. What the mocking of Jesus on the cross says about our hearts:

(B) We're blind to the ways of weakness.

The second thread coming through the mockery in verses 29-32 is saying,

"You couldn't be the King, you couldn't be the Savior, because you're to weak. If God was really with you, you'd be strong! He'd be protecting you, He wouldn't let us be doing these things to you."

Paul wrote:

There was given to me a thorn in my flesh. 8 Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. 9 Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:7-9

God was doing the greatest thing he had ever done in the history of the world and the concept couldn't fit into their minds.

II. What the mocking of Jesus on the cross says about God's heart:

Jesus Christ taking all this shame and humiliation shows us what He is really all about.

They say: *"If you're almighty God express your greatness by coming down off the cross."*

"He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! 32 Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe."
Mark 15:31,32

In the greatest act of self-control in the history of the universe, the all powerful God, became weak, and stayed weak, and took it out of love for you and I.

Psalms chapter 2 talks about what we deserve.

Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans? 2 The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one. 3 "Let us break their chains," they cry, "and free ourselves from slavery to God."

Psalms 2:1-3

But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them.

Psalms 2:4

Isaiah 53 talks about what Jesus got.

He was despised and rejected— a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. 4 Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! 5 But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.

Isaiah 53:3-5

He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21