

. . *Was it for me?*

3 Crosses † † † . . only 2 Criminals

*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*

. . *Was it for me?*

*Most of us will have some clear understanding of impending death before our eyes shut for the last time.*

Certainly that was the case for 3 Men that died by crucifixion on 3 Crosses fixed on a hill outside of Jerusalem in the year AD 30, nearly 2000 years ago [John 19:18-19].

These 3 men were intensely and painfully aware of their imminent deaths and each man made certain statements that were recorded prior to their dying.

Those statements reflected choices that each man made prior to that final breath.

Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God,

*. . shouldst die for me?*

Yes, three men were executed that day. A strange recorded fact is that all 3 men were tried in the Roman Court of Law, but only 2 of the 3 men were actually convicted and sentenced to death by crucifixion for their crimes.

The Judge, Roman Governor Pontius Pilate, after multiple trials had ruled that the 3rd Man was totally innocent of any crime and that He deserved to be set free.

Yet, despite 3 clear judicial rulings of innocence, the Man, Jesus of Nazareth, was flogged, tortured and sentenced to be killed by crucifixion.

*How could this be?* A large number of people gathered for the trial at Pilate's Judicial Court, including the most influential religious leaders of the country. This group exerted tremendous pressure on Pilate, demanding that Jesus be killed. These influential leaders, motivated by jealousy and fearful of losing their power / position / wealth, determined to force Pontius Pilate to convict Jesus and carry out a sentence of death.

To quiet the rising tumult of the onlooking crowd and to escape the pressure from the religious authorities, Pilate ordered Jesus to be crucified along with the 2 convicted criminals.

**Matthew 27:23,24**

But they cried out all the more, saying, "*Let Him be crucified!*"  
When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "*I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it.*"

. . *Was it for me?*

Luke 23:3,4,13-22

Then Pilate asked Him, saying,

*“Are You the King of the Jews?”*

He answered him and said, *“It is as you say.”*

So Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowd,

*“I find no fault in this Man.”*

Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests,  
the rulers, and the people, said to them,

*“You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people.  
And indeed, having examined Him in your presence,*

*I have found no fault in this Man  
concerning those things of  
which you accuse Him;*

*no, neither did Herod,  
for I sent you back to him; and indeed nothing deserving of death  
has been done by Him. I will therefore chastise Him and release Him”*

(for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).

## Jesus is Declared Totally Innocent,

*. . by Pilate and Herod*

And they all cried out at once, saying,

*“Away with this Man, and release to us Barabbas”*

who had been thrown into prison for a certain  
rebellion made in the city, and for murder.

Pilate, therefore, wishing to release Jesus,  
again called out to them. But they shouted, saying,

*“Crucify Him, crucify Him!”*

Then he said to them the third time,

*“Why, what evil has He done?”*

*I have found no reason  
for death in Him.”*

. . *Was it for me?*

Jesus of Nazareth, the 3rd Man crucified that day, made seven statements during His execution. Four of those statements were of eternal importance to Criminal No. 2 and, indeed, to every person born into this world.

## Before we die . .

each of us will have declared plainly the heart condition that produced the statements made by Criminal No. 1 or Criminal No. 2.

Criminal No. 1. Luke 23:39 Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed ["mocked" - Mark 15:27-31] Him, saying, *"If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."*

Criminal No. 2. Luke 23:40-42 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, *"Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."* Then he said to Jesus, *"Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."*

Luke 23:43

And Jesus said to him [Criminal No. 2],  
*"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."*

Mark 15:34

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"* which is translated, *"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

John 19:30

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, *"It is finished!"* And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Luke 23:44-46

Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, *"Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'"* Having said this, He breathed His last.

. . *Was it for me?*

John 3:16  
For God so loved the world that He  
gave His only begotten Son . .

Matthew 27:54,55  
Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping  
guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the  
things that were happening, became very frightened  
and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

## 3 Crosses †† . . only 2 Criminals

One innocent Man, the penniless carpenter from Nazareth,  
died that day between two criminals. He is the  
Son of God, who, also . . . died for you and for me!

## Borrowed

Jesus Christ, though He owns all the Universe, lived a borrowed life.

*In His human life of 33 years . . .  
He was born in a borrowed manger  
Lived in borrowed houses throughout His ministry  
Borrowed an animal to enter Jerusalem  
Borrowed lodgings from friends in Bethany  
Borrowed a room for Passover  
Borrowed a Roman cross for a few hours  
Borrowed a grave at the end, and*

. . even His clothes went to those who executed Him!

John 19:24  
"Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,"  
that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:  
"They divided My garments among them,  
And for My clothing they cast lots."

God's whole-hearted love should not be returned  
with half-hearted love on our part.

. . *Was it for me?*

Jesus Christ, the Sin-Bearer

Isaiah 53:1,3,4-7

Who has believed our report? And to whom has  
the arm of the Lord been revealed?

He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows  
and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were,  
our faces from Him; He was despised, and  
we did not esteem Him.

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our  
sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

Jesus Was Wounded for Our Transgressions,  
*. . by His Stripes we are healed.*

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was  
bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for  
our peace was upon Him, and by  
His stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned,  
every one, to his own way; and the Lord has  
laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened  
not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,  
And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,  
So He opened not His mouth.

. . *Was it for me?*

*It was for me, Y&S, all for me!  
O love of God, so great so free!  
O wondrous love, O marvelous grace,  
He died for me, He took my place!*

Was it for me, for me alone,  
The Savior left His glorious throne,  
The dazzling splendors of the sky?  
Was it for me He came to die?

Was it for me sweet angel strains  
Came floating o'er Judea's plains,  
That starlit night so long ago?  
Was it for me God planned it so?

# Who did Jesus die for on that cross?

*. . He Died to save you and me!*

Was it for me the Savior said,  
"Pillow thy weary, aching head,  
Trustingly on thy Savior's breast?"  
Was it for me? Can I thus rest?

Was it for me He wept and prayed,  
My load of sin before Him laid  
That night within Gethsemane?  
Was it for me, that agony?

Was it for me He bowed His head  
Upon the cross, and freely shed  
His precious blood—that crimson tide?  
Was it for me the Savior died?

**John M. Whyte** (b 8 Jun 1850, d 17 Mar 1927)

. . *Was it for me?*

### **The Moral Law of God: Exodus 20:3-17**

And God spoke all these words, saying:

1. "You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image  
— any likeness of anything
3. "You shall not take the  
name of the Lord your God in vain,  
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless  
who takes His name in vain.
4. "Remember the Sabbath day
5. "Honor your father and your mother
6. "You shall not murder.
7. "You shall not commit adultery.
8. "You shall not steal.
9. "You shall not bear false witness  
against your neighbor.
10. "You shall not covet

### **James 2:10**

For whoever shall keep the whole law,  
and yet stumble in one point,  
*he is guilty of all.*

## Only sinners need a Savior!

**Ezekiel 18:20** The soul who sins shall die.

**Matthew 22:13** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### **Isaiah 59:2**

But your iniquities have separated you from your God;  
And your sins have hidden His face from you, . .  
. . so that He will not hear.

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*I have broken the Moral Law of God and the just penalty for my willful sin is death.*

3. Lord's Name in vain. Using "OMG" or "Jesus Christ" as a swear word, violates His law.
7. Adultery. *"Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery."*
8. Steal. To steal anything makes me a thief.
9. False Witness. To ever lie about anything, makes me a liar.
10. Covet. To ever desire what someone else possesses makes me covetous.



. . *Was it for me?*

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone

is in Christ,

he is a new creation;

old things have passed away;  
behold, all things have become new.

God is urging all people to

. . *come now to Jesus Christ!*

2 Peter 3:9-10

The Lord is . . not willing that any should perish  
but that all should come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come  
as a thief in the night,

in which the heavens will pass away  
with a great noise, and the elements  
will melt with fervent heat;

both the earth and the works that  
are in it will be burned up.

. . *Was it for me?*

Acts 16:30,31

*“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”*

So they said,

*“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,*

*and you will be saved”*

Have you heard in your heart the

voice of God,

*. . calling you to be saved?*

John 10:9

Then Jesus said to them again . .

*“I am the door.*

*If anyone enters by Me,*

*He will be saved.”*

. . *Was it for me?*

1 Timothy 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:  
God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit,  
seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles,  
believed on in the world,  
received up in glory.

2. ALL SCRIPTURE, in the original languages, is GOD  
inspired and nothing can be discarded.

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of  
God, for reproof, for correction, and  
is profitable for doctrine,  
for instruction in  
righteousness.

1. Jesus is God
2. All Scripture is Inspired

## Saving Faith in Jesus Holds These Four Truths:

3. Jesus is Lord and all - sufficient Savior  
[Saved by Grace, it is the gift of God, not of our works]
4. Jesus is the only Way to God, the Father

3. JESUS CHRIST is LORD and  
requires ALL of one's life  
to be given to HIM.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

You are not your own, for you  
were bought with a price.  
So glorify God in your body.

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4. JESUS CHRIST is the Only Way. JESUS CHRIST alone, by Faith alone.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that  
whoever believes in Him should not perish  
but have everlasting life.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him,

*"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes  
to the Father except through Me."*

1 Timothy 2:3-6

God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to  
the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and  
one Mediator between God and men, the  
Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself  
a ransom for all.

. . *Was it for me?*

*“Lord Jesus Christ, up until this very moment, all of my life has been completely wrapped up in ‘me’ . . . my wants, my desires, my will, my way, my timing.*

*I now see that all that produced was sin. I have offended You, Almighty God, and harmed others by my self-centeredness.*

*I am broken-hearted and devastated by the truth that I have withheld from You what is rightfully Yours, all that I am and all that You have placed in my hands.*

*I now understand that everything belongs to You for Your control and not for my control.*

*I have rebelled against Your will and have chosen to take my own way to my hurt and to the hurt of those around me.*

*I solemnly choose to let go of everything in my life and give all completely to You, the rightful Sovereign Owner.*

My Prayer, expressing my desire to say “Yes”

*. . .to Jesus calling me to Him!*

*Would You please draw me now to Yourself,  
forgive me and give me Your life?*

*Please send the Holy Spirit to give me the promised  
new birth and seal me as Your very own  
purchased possession for all eternity.*

*Please give me Your supernatural joy and peace which  
You promised and that confirms that You  
have accepted my plea.*

*Dear Lord and Savior, I have counted the cost,  
knowing this requires all of me forever.*

*I am so very thankful that You are always pleased to receive  
and accept any and every person that comes to You  
on these terms of absolute surrender of self.”*

*. . Was it for me?*

Luke 13:23,24

Then one said to Jesus,

*“Lord, are there few who are saved?”*

And He said to them,

*“Strive to enter through  
the narrow gate,  
for many,  
I say to you,  
will seek to enter  
and will not be able.”*

Will you now trust in Jesus Christ

*. . and what He did for you?*

Acts 4:12

*“Nor is there salvation in any other,*

*for there is no other name [Jesus Christ]  
under heaven given among men by which*

*we must be saved.”*

. . *Was it for me?*

When you have heard God's voice asking as He asked Adam, "*Where are you?*" (Genesis 3:9); when you have been arrested by your conscience and have been convicted by God, the Holy Spirit (John 16:8), of your sin, this page is your declaration of that event.

When God has spoken to you and you have asked Jesus Christ to be the Savior and Lord of your life, you will feel compelled to make it known (Romans 10:9).

Salvation is a Private Event occurring in the heart and no one except you and God can confirm it has happened (cf. Mark 4:13-20).

Even though salvation is a Private Event, being a follower of Christ requires a Public Profession. Jesus makes no option available to His followers to be undercover Christians (Romans 10:9).

*"So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven"* (Matthew 10:32).

When you have heard God's voice,  
. . *tell somebody!*

Asking Jesus Christ to save you: [or similar words expressed by your own personality].

Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and my sin separates me from God. Because God, the Father, loves me, He sent You to pay the penalty for my sin by dying on the cross to restore me to fellowship with Himself (1 John 1:9).

I ask you to forgive my sins and give me eternal life (Luke 11:13).

It is my deepest desire to love You and obey Your Words (Romans 10:9-10).  
Rejoice!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Sign above / Print below                      Date:                      Hour:

Please email us a copy when this is completed, and we will regularly pray for you.  
Tell Somebody!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person Told:                      Date:                      Name of Person Told:                      Date:

Email to: [WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com](mailto:WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com)