



## Reflection on the Crucifixion

*By Bryan Trotter on February 3, 2021*

### **TODAY'S READING:** Luke 23

I love stories. I love to hear new stories, and I am drawn to great story tellers through books, film or spoken word. If you grew up in church, you have no doubt heard the crucifixion story many times. However, this story differs from other great stories because we cannot fully identify with it. Great stories draw us in and we identify with the struggles of the characters, but we cannot fully identify with Christ because no one has experienced what He experienced. The Son of God, who humbled Himself to take on the form of His creation, was despised and rejected and allowed Himself to be brutally murdered by His inferior, finite creations. Hearing any story over and over again can lead us to become desensitized to it, even the story of the crucifixion. It is good for us to deeply reflect on what Jesus Christ has done.

Reread the words from Luke 23 and feel the weight of the story:

- The exhaustion from praying the night before.
- The clothes that were stripped from Him.
- The pain of each slap and hit He received from the guards.
- The thorns driven into His head as a crown.
- The flesh that was torn from His body as he endured the flogging.
- The injustice of a mock trial that drove Pilate to release a murderer, Barabbas, while an innocent man was sent to die.
- The cry of the crowd to crucify Him - the same crowd who celebrated His arrival to Jerusalem only days before.
- The weight of the cross He carried as He took each step closer to His own death.
- The unimaginable pain of the nails driven in His hands and His feet.
- The struggle and pain to take each breath.
- The shame He endured as He hung on the cross.

The Eternal God who knew no beginning experienced death. He experienced breathing out His last breath. There was no anger, malice or hatred on His lips, only forgiveness. Today, my prayer is that you feel and understand the price that was paid for your sins. Respond to Him today with thanksgiving. Bow in prayer and worship Him. He alone is worthy.

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