

The Crown Of Thorns

Sunday AM 10/27/19

Introduction:

History is full of accounts of cruelty inflicted upon people. Pictures of death camps makes one wonder how a government could be so cruel. The death of a two-year-old boy at the hands of two 10-year-old boys makes me shutter. *Matthew 27.27- 31* recounts for us part of the death of Jesus. We want to think about the crown of thorns placed upon Jesus' head.

A) A literal crown of thorns was used, not figurative.

1. Thorns hurt, cut, causes the victim to bleed.
 - a. I like blackberries but I do not like picking them.
2. Thorns were as long as three inches long, and they were hard.
3. Imagine the blood running down the face, down the forehead, into the eyes of the victim.

B) Look at the one on whom they put the crown of thorns.

1. Jesus crucified between two criminals.
2. He was the innocent one, the only one never to sin.
3. The two thieves did not have this crown of thorns; we do not read of anyone else ever having a crown of thorns placed upon their head.
4. What did He do? *Acts 2.22*.

C) The soldiers then mocked Him.

1. They made fun of Him.
2. The devil uses mockery as a tool to discourage people. At the temptation of Christ the devil said if you are the Son of God, but he already knew Jesus was the Son of God.
 - a. Mockery is used on young people to make them feel ashamed.
 - b. Christians are ridiculed and mocked for believing in God, in His standard or morality, in believing in the judgement to come, and believing in heaven.

D) Notice the pain Jesus had to endure. *V. 30*

1. They struck the crown of thorns.
2. The thorns went deeper and deeper into Jesus' head.
3. How could they have done such a thing?
4. How can people read about Jesus and then not care?

E) Who put the crown of thorns on Jesus' head?

1. The Roman Soldiers literally placed the thorns on Jesus' head.
2. Pilate was responsible for condemning an innocent man.
 - a. Pilate's hands was filled with the blood of Jesus Christ.
3. The Jews were responsible for the death of Jesus, *Acts 2.22-23, 36.*

- a. The Jews crucified Jesus.
 - b. The Roman soldiers, and Pilate were simply the agents the Jews used, *Matthew 20.18-19; Acts 3.14-15*.
4. How about us?
- a. What are we doing when we deny the virgin birth of Jesus? *Matthew 1.21*.
 - b. What are we doing when we disobey His commandments? *John 15.13-14*.
 - i) Have you been baptized? *Romans 6.17,18*.
 - c. Have you as a Christian failed to carry out your duties? *Hebrews 10.26; 6.4-6; 10.29-30*.
- F) We should be motivated as we read about the crown of thorns.**
- 1. We should not complain about our lot in life.
 - a. About teaching and doing more in service to God.
 - b. Not grumble, *Phil. 2.14*.
 - 2. Many Christians are not involved in serving God. *Matthew 20.27-28*
- G) Jesus died that we may have eternal life, *2 Timothy 4.6*.**
- 1. Crown is a symbol of authority (*Matthew 28.18*), sign of royalty.

2. King wears a crown, has servants, and rules (*Rev. 1.5*).
3. The only way to wear a crown of righteousness is by going to the one who wore the crown of thorns, *2 Corinthians 5.21*.

Conclusion:

Today a lot of people will dress up and go to worship services. In order to go to heaven, we must be willing to die to sin and live for Christ. Are you doing that now?