

# Jesus' Exaltation On the Cross

*Promise: The Cross draws us to the One Who will take us to Paradise*

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Malachi 3:13-18; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:13-20; [Luke 23:27-43](#)  
(Christ the King Sunday, 11/24/19)

*But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. — v. 2a*

**Lead In** – It was meant as mockery. The inscription over Jesus on the cross read, “This is the King of the Jews.” Again in ridicule the soldiers had earlier clothed Jesus in a purple cloak, and then plaited a crown of thorns on his head. ... But at least one person present that day recognized that Jesus was indeed the King!

## I. Why A Crucifixion Text For This Day?

- A. In Yr A there is a text you would more expect...
- B. Surprising judgment came with His death...
- C. Jesus being lifted up from the earth...

## II. Who Really Is On Trial Here?

- A. In Yr B Jesus ostensibly on trial before Pilate...
- B. Truth is, we would kill the author of life...
- C. Jesus said, “Daughters do not weep for me!”...

## III. Of All People the One To Recognize The King

- A. Was it the amazing prayer for forgiveness?
- B. Even while dying we would rail against Him...
- C. One guilty criminal recognized his due reward...
- D. Recognition of Jesus’ innocence...

**Parting Shot** – Jesus’ exaltation drew a criminal crucified alongside of Him. By God’s grace and in humility he saw that Jesus was about to enter his reign. “Jesus remember me when...” Jesus’ exaltation also drew an officer in the Roman army overseeing the crucifixion. And the preaching of Christ crucified, lifted up on the cross, continues to draw all people to Him. It has drawn us this morning to pay tribute to our King. We pay tribute for the glory of the salvation He won for us by dying and rising, and we ask that “Jesus remember us in your reign.”...

**Mark 15:17-18** And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

**Matthew 25:31** When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

**John 12:31-32** Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

**John 12:23** And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

**John 18:33** So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

# Luke 23:27-43 ESV

*The Crucifixion*

<sup>27</sup>And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. <sup>28</sup>But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ <sup>31</sup>For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup>And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

**John 18:36** Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

**John 18:37** Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”

**Acts 3:15** you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

**Mark 15:39** And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

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