

Mark 15:16-39

4th October 2009

Sitting down to type out these questions, having read the passage before us several times, I feel I am totally out of my league.

The crucifixion of the Lord of Glory. It is a moment so holy, so earth-shattering, so harrowing, so redemptive – who can subject it to inquiry?

And yet our God wants us to come to Golgotha with inquiring minds, incredulous minds, worshiping minds. Join me this week in meditation on the Lord's final moments on earth. Adore him with me – that he would endure the cross for us! – and give glory to God.

- 1) The leaders and crowds made great hay over the claim that Jesus was a king. See verses 18,-20, 26 and 32. Was Jesus a king? If so, what sort of a king?

- 2) Why did people revile and mock Jesus? Why was there such scathing animosity towards him? How do you explain the invective of his detractors?

- 3) What is the meaning of Jesus' cry in verse 34: 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

- 4) Do you see anything uplifting in this passage? What about verses 40-41? Explain.

- 5) How does a week at the foot of the cross change you? In what way are you a different person for having allowed the Lord to minister to you through this passage? How will it encourage you to live differently this week at work, in the home, at school, in the neighborhood? Give examples.