

## **Pastor Roy's Sermon on Matthew 27:32-50** **(May 20, 2026)**

***—Below are questions from that lesson to further our understanding—***

1. How does understanding the historical brutality of Roman crucifixion deepen your appreciation for what Christ endured on your behalf?
2. Simon of Cyrene was unwillingly pressed into service to carry the cross, yet his life was changed forever. How has God used unwanted circumstances in your life to draw you closer to Him?
3. Jesus refused the wine mixed with gall that would have dulled His pain. What does this refusal reveal about His commitment to fully experiencing the punishment for our sins?
4. The charge above Jesus' head ironically proclaimed the truth: This is the King of the Jews. How does God use even the actions of unbelievers to accomplish His sovereign purposes?
5. Jesus had the power to come down from the cross but chose not to. What does this teach us about the difference between having power and choosing to exercise restraint for a greater purpose?
6. The religious leaders who should have recognized the Messiah were the ones mocking Him most. What warnings does this provide about religious knowledge without genuine relationship with God?
7. At the ninth hour, the Father turned away from the Son as He bore our sin. How does this moment of separation help you understand the depth of what sin cost both the Father and the Son?
8. One criminal mocked Jesus while another found salvation in his final moments. What does this reveal about the accessibility of God's grace even at the point of death?
9. The people watching the crucifixion kept looking for signs while missing the greatest sign of all happening before their eyes. In what ways might we be guilty of the same spiritual blindness today?
10. Jesus defeated sin, death, and Satan through what appeared to be His greatest moment of weakness. How does this paradox challenge our understanding of what true victory and power look like?