

9. Read *Luke 23:26-49*. How would most people have behaved and spoken during the process of dying?

How did Jesus speak and behave throughout the process of dying?

How would the difference in Jesus' behavior, compared with others, have impacted a man so experienced with death?

10. What feelings and emotions must have the centurion felt after crucifying Jesus?

Quotes to Ponder

Although mocked as King by the soldiers and Pharisees, the sign above His head—"The King of the Jews" (Mark 15:26)—ironically expressed a truth recognized by the criminal beside Him (Luke 23:42) and the centurion below (Mark 15:39). Jesus rose from the dead, being declared King to a broken creation (Romans 1:3-4) and inaugurating His kingdom as the firstfruits of the new creation (1 Corinthians 15:20-25).

Jeremy R. Treat

Mark closes his gospel with the evidence that Jesus has proved Himself to be the Son of God to a pagan. For Roman Christians, his confession has a personal and prophetic ring to it. Personally, they are encouraged that their witness in suffering will not be in vain.... Prophetically, the centurion's confession attests to the redemption of Gentiles as well as Jews.

David L. McKenna

From the crucified thief to this pagan commander, trophies of divine grace were on display even in the midst of Jesus' suffering and death... both were blasphemers who mocked and persecuted the Son of God. Yet, in His infinite mercy, God reached down and rescued them eternally, granting them salvation through the very One whose crucifixion they witnessed.

John MacArthur



#5 The Centurion — Matthew 27:54

March 6, 2016

Sermon
Notes

1. Background

2. The Centurion

3. Significance and Meaning

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

2. What were Romans soldiers and centurions generally like?

3. What was Jesus' prior experience with a Roman centurion (*Matthew 8:5-13*)?

4. What do these verses tell us that the centurion and soldiers may have been witnesses to or involved in?

Matthew 27:11-14 —

Luke 23:34-37 —

Matthew 27:19 —

Luke 23:46 —

Matthew 27:24 —

John 18:1-11 —

Matthew 27:27-31 —

John 19:8-12 —

Matthew 27:33-53 —

John 19:23-30 —

5. What conclusion does the centurion come to according to *Matthew 27:54*, *Mark 15:39*, and *Luke 23:47*?

6. Who are the only ones in Mark's gospel to declare that Jesus is the *Son of God*?

Mark 1:11 —

Mark 3:11 —

Mark 15:39 —

7. Do you think the conversion of the centurion (and soldiers) was a greater miracle than the darkness, torn veil, earthquake, opened tombs, and resurrected saints? Why or why not?

8. How are Peter's and the centurion's confessions similar (*Matthew 16:16*; *Matthew 27:54*)?

What caused the centurion's change of mind about Jesus according to these verses?

Matthew 27:54 —

Luke 23:47 —

Mark 15:39 —

What do these verses add to your understanding of the centurion's confession?

Matthew 16:17—

1 Corinthians 12:3 —