

## THOUGHTFULNESS FROM THE CROSS

### John 19:25-26

**Introduction:** Try to put yourself in Jesus place as He hung on the cross. Try to imagine the pain, agony, distress, feelings of having been betrayed, deserted, abandoned, lied about, falsely accused and even God the Father has turned His back. So alone. Who would ever think about helping anybody while hanging on a cross as Jesus was. Yet Jesus did. Jesus set many examples for us and here is another one, thinking of someone else's need when in such distress Himself. Jesus thought about His mother's welfare.

### I. SIMEON'S PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED

1. Mary and Joseph took their baby son, Jesus, to the temple to present Him to the Lord since He was their first born son and there they encountered Simeon. (*Luke 2:29-35*)
2. Simeon prophesied that her son would be great but that her own heart would be pierced.
  - Little is seen or heard of Mary after Jesus' childhood days but now she stands at the foot of her Son's cross. What a sword has now pierced her heart and soul, just as Simeon prophesied.
  - Mary was the one who first planted kisses on the brow now crowned with thorns.
  - Mary was the one who guided those little hands and feet in their first movements.
  - The crowds are mocking, priests jeering, soldiers so indifferent and her Son is dying.
    - Mary did not faint nor did she turn her head and she did not run away. Mary stood by her son.

### II. ON THE CROSS, JESUS SET THE EXAMPLE OF HONORING ONE'S PARENTS

1. In God's commandments for His people He commanded that parents are to be honored and here Jesus is showing that honoring one's parents goes beyond childhood and continues to the end of the parents' lives.
2. When a young boy, Jesus strayed from His family causing them much distress when they visited Jerusalem one time, but he went on to "be subject unto them."
3. In His last terrible, horrible hours of human life, Jesus thought of His mother and gave her honor by thinking of her welfare.

### III. ONE OF THE DISCIPLES, JOHN, HAD COME TO THE CROSS

1. One of the most hurtful things about this was that all of Jesus' friends had deserted Him, for fear, for shame, not wanting to be offended. Even His closest friend, John had left.
2. But now, here stands John. He had gone for Mary and had returned to be with his friend.

3. Eventually all of Jesus' disciples/friends returned and they looked for Jesus in Galilee as He had previously instructed them to do.
4. Would you have been among those who fled in fear and shame for a while, not going to the cross?
5. When Jesus, from the cross, saw John, He didn't rebuke him, but gave John something to do for Him. Jesus won't rebuke us either when we come back from our wandering away.

#### **IV. FROM THE CROSS, JESUS TEACHES LOVE AND THOUGHTFULNESS**

1. *"...Behold thy mother..."* What a responsibility! What an honor!
2. Nobody loved Jesus more than these two - Jesus' mother and John, His best friend.
3. Remember, it was John who rushed back home to tell Mary that Jesus was not in the tomb! Of all who knew Jesus, who more than these two would rejoice at such glad news.

#### **V. SPIRITUAL MATTERS MUST NOT IGNORE OUR HUMAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Look at what was happening to Jesus, look at what He was doing for mankind, yet He did not overlook His responsibility to His mother.
2. Christians, no matter how seemingly important your work may seem to be for the Lord, there are NO excuses for not caring for you families. To neglect your family members at home brings reproach upon the name and cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **VI. JESUS SHOWED HOW TO BLEND SPIRITUAL AND HUMAN RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Jesus' perfect human affection blended with His divine glory. He was making atonement for all the sins of all the world, wrestling with the powers of darkness and at the same time making arrangements for John to take care of His earthly mother.
2. Jesus was performing the mightiest work of all human history, yet He didn't forget to make provision for His mother.
3. In all that Jesus did, in every relationship He had, in His person, in His work, in His life, in His death, Jesus was and is wonderful.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Once again: WDJJ? What Did Jesus Do? Let us go do likewise.
2. Doing God's will is critical but taking care of our family members is also critical. Jesus showed us how to blend them together. Neither can be put aside for the other.