"THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM"

Luke 23:33

INTRODUCTION:
1. In this lesson we want to study the Crucifixion of our Savior.
2. We will develop this lesson from these FOUR WORDS: THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM.

I. "THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM"
   1. "THERE" refers to the place it was done -- Lk. 23:33
   2. The place was "Calvary" -- Calvary is from the Latin -- Lk. 23:33
   3. The place was called "GOLGOTHA" from the Hebrew. The word meant "skull". Matt. 27:33; John 19:17
   4. Golgotha was outside the city of Jerusalem.
   5. It was a SHAMEFUL PLACE -- Heb. 12:2.
      A. He was crucified between TWO thieves -- Lk. 23:33; John 19:18.
      B. There was the intimation that he was the vilest of the three.
      C. This was to increase the shame and contempt that went with crucifixion.
      D. Isaiah said, or foretold this: "He was numbered with the transgressors". Isa. 53:12.
   6. He was crucified in a CONSPICUOUS PLACE.
      A. It was near the city, and a place where people passed. Matt. 27:39; Mk. 15:29-30.
      B. "Value was attached to publicity of execution; and for this reason highways or elevated squares were selected for the place". Schaff-Herzog
   7. A SOLITARY PLACE.
      A. Though in the midst of many people, He was lonely.
      B. Betrayed by Judas -- Matt. 26:48; 26:14-16
      C. Denied by Peter -- Matt. 26:69-70.
      D. All the disciples forsook Him and fled -- Matt. 26:56.
      E. As He bore the sins of mankind away, (I Pet. 2:24), God had not forsaken Him -- Matt. 27:46; John 16:32; John 8:28-29.
   8. It was an APPOINTED PLACE.
      A. The Jews were not allowed to eat the flesh of any sin offering whose blood was carried into the Sanctuary by the High Priest -- the flesh, skin, and dung was burned without the camp -- Ex. 29:14; Lev. 6:30; Heb. 13:11
B. Christ died and shed His blood for the sins of the world; He is our sin offering, and He had to die without the camp -- Heb. 13:12; II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 9:25-28; Eph. 5:2.

II. "THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM"

1. Let us now look at "THEY" and see WHO crucified Him.

2. The JEWS; Jesus had incurred the ENMITY of the Jews for many different reasons -- Matt. 26:1-4; Mk. 15:1.
   A. He had openly condemned their sins -- Lk. 20:45-47
   B. He had EXPOSED their hypocrisy and ungodliness -- Matt. 23:1-7.
   C. He refused to conform to their religious TRADITIONS -- Matt. 15:9
   D. He came to save sinners (Lk. 19:10) -- He associated freely with sinful people while here -- Lk. 15:2.
   E. He refused to become their POLITICAL leader -- John 6:15.
   F. They tried repeatedly to kill Him.
      a. John 5:16-18
      b. Feast of Tabernacles -- John 7:32
      c. John 8:37,40
      d. John 8:59
      e. Matt. 27:1-3


4. The Roman Soldiers -- Matt. 27:31; Lk. 23:33
   A. They led Him to the spot and drove the spikes.
   B. They crucified Him between two thieves -- Lk. 23:33.

5. All men for whose Sins He died.
   A. I Cor. 15:3
   B. I John 2:2

III. "THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM"

1. Crucifixion was not a custom of the Jews, it was a Roman mode of punishment.
2. "It was unanimously considered the most horrible form of death"...Smith's Bible Dictionary.
3. Crucifixion was preceded by SCOURGING -- Mk. 15:15; John 19:1; Matt. 27:26.
   A. A scourging was done with a whip that had strips of leather with bone or metal attached to the ends.
   B. Christ had suffered intense mental fatigue in the Garden of Gethsemane.
C. Then the ordeal of Mockery Trials.
D. Now, after the scourging, He is bleeding and swelling and craving water.
E. They make Him start our bearing His Cross -- John 19:17.
F. When they came to Calvary, the cross was laid on the ground and Jesus was nailed to the cross.
G. They elevated the cross and let it fall violently into the hole which had been dug for it.
H. The sudden fall gave Jesus a violent shock, and greatly increased His suffering.
J. "They that passed by reviled Him, wagging their heads." -- Matt. 27:39.
K. "Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour..." -- Matt. 27:45.
L. Matt. 27:51.

IV. "THERE THEY CRUCIFIED HIM".
   1. Their Benefactor.
      A. Their Savior -- Matt. 1:21; Lk. 19:10.
      B. He went about doing good -- Acts 10:38.
   2. The Sinless One.
      A. Pilate said he was a "Just person". -- Matt 27:24
      B. Pilate's wife said he was a "Just man". -- Matt. 27:4
      C. Judas said he was "Innocent" -- Matt. 27:4.
      D. Peter -- I Pet. 2:22
   3. The Lamb of God -- John 1:29

CONCLUSION:
1. Christ died to save you and me.
2. What have you done with Jesus?