CHAPTER 23.6 LOVE WALKS TOWARD THE CROSS

"ONLY ONE" Luke 22:66 - 23:25 September 25, 2016

I. One Who Forgives (34)

What does forgiveness look like?

- 1. Our sin is no longer our <u>identifying factor</u>.
- 2. Washed. Clean.
- 3. Not held over our heads. Never brought back up. Lack of understanding is no excuse. We are not innocent, but <u>guilty</u>.
- II. Only one Payment in full. (44-46)
 - A. Creation quaked as the Creator died.
 - B. Jesus' commits His spirit to the Father. (46) The work was <u>complete</u>.
- III. Only one Response leads to salvation.

There is only one <u>way</u> to heaven, through one sacrifice, by one <u>Savior</u>. There are many possible responses, but only one leads into the kingdom through salvation.

Luke fills every crevice of this narrative with people.

- 1. Simon carries Jesus' cross (26)
- 2. Women mourning and lamenting. (27-31)
- 3. People were watching. Sidelines spectacle. (35)
- 4. Rulers scoffed.
- 5. Soldiers mocked.
- 6. Criminals railed.
- 7. But one criminal <u>repented</u>!
 - a. He recognized and accepted the just consequences of sin.
 - b. Jesus is innocent.
 - c. REMEMBER ME!
 - d. "when you come into your kingdom"

Kingdom citizens can only enter through Jesus' death.

Salvation Promised (43)

Buried by one who was looking for the kingdom. (50-56)

The kingdom remains the focal point!

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"RISEN" Mt 28:1-10; Luke 24:1-12

Historical Timeline:

Jesus had given His life on the cross on Friday after hours of excruciating suffering. He was hurriedly buried before sunset as the Jews prepared for the Sabbath. Sabbath was from dusk on Friday night to dusk on Saturday night. So it was early on Sunday morning, as dawn was breaking, that a group of women, who were followers of Jesus, went to the tomb.

Passage Overview:

It was customary to wrap the dead body tightly with linen cloth. A second cloth was used to wrap the head. Burial spices were placed on the corpse as well. Joseph of Arimathea, a wealthy secret follower of Jesus, and Nicodemus had already wrapped Jesus' body with about 75 pounds of spices when he was buried. (John 19:38-42) But the women who had traveled with Jesus desired to bring more spices early on Sunday morning. This may have been out of their personal desire to honor Him, or because they felt that with the rush of burial before the Sabbath had begun the anointing process had not been completed fully.

It is very significant that women were the first to witness Jesus' resurrection. The men were still in hiding. Yet these women courageously went to the tomb, knowing they would meet the military guard that had been stationed there. They didn't know how they would move the huge circular stone that had been rolled through a trench in front of the rock hewn tomb in order to close the entrance. Still, they went.

The resurrection of Jesus was accompanied by the arrival of angels and a great earthquake. The military guard was so frightened that they fell to the ground as if dead. But the women heard the angels tell them that Jesus was living and was not to be found among the dead. They must quickly run and tell the disciples to meet Jesus in Galilee.

Turning to run to tell the disciples, they then met Jesus Himself. They fell at His feet in worship. His resurrected state was proof to them that He was no ordinary Rabbi. He was alive although He had died! He was worthy of worship! And only God is worthy of worship.

Jesus' resurrection was the fulfillment of His own words, spoken before His death. It is proof that His sacrifice was sufficient for our sins and acceptable before His Father. His resurrection defeated death. It validates His promise to all those who believe in Him as the resurrection and the life that they too will live again. (John 11:25)

Reading for Next Week: Matthew 28:1-10; Luke 24:1-12