

## IRONIES OF THE CROSS

### I. THE JUDGE OF ALL MEN WAS JUDGED BY A MAN

#### A. **John 19:5-13; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:10**

Jesus appeared before the judgment seat of Pilate to receive a sentence of death, but we will all appear before Christ's judgment seat. How interesting it will be to watch Pilate stand before Christ for judgment!

#### B. **Luke 23:23-24; 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:8**

Unlike the judge at His own trial, who sentenced Him to an undeserved death, Jesus is a righteous Judge, who will deal justly with all who come before Him.

#### C. **Romans 8:1**

Jesus knows just what it feels like to sit as a defendant, awaiting a sentence of certain condemnation. Nevertheless, He assures "no condemnation" to His children.

### II. THE FRIEND OF SINNERS DIED WITHOUT A FRIEND

#### A. **Matthew 11:19; 9:9-12; Luke 19:1-10**

In His life, Jesus was a friend to those who most needed one.

#### B. **Matthew 26:47-50**

He even called Judas His friend when he came to betray Him.

#### C. **Luke 5:11; Mark 14:50**

When their companionship would have been most appreciated, those who had forsaken all to follow Him suddenly forsook Him and fled.

#### D. **Luke 22:54; 23:49**

Those who had been His most intimate companions in life found themselves observing His trial and crucifixion from a distance.

### III. THE ONE WHO BROUGHT JOY TO THE WORLD DIED IN SORROW

A. **Luke 2:10-11; 8:1**

His birth brought great joy because Jesus proclaimed glad tidings to the world.

B. **Luke 23:27**

As He made His way to the cross, He was mourned and lamented.

C. **Isaiah 53:3**

He who brought happiness to the earth, left it as a *“man of sorrows”*,  
*“acquainted with grief”*.

IV. **HE WHO OFFERS A LIGHT BURDEN STRUGGLED BENEATH THE WEIGHT OF THE CROSS**

A. **Matthew 11:28-30; 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:3**

Jesus invites the weary to accept from Him a light burden through love and obedience.

B. **John 19:17; Luke 23:26**

Weak from His ordeal, Jesus appears to have fallen beneath the load of His own cross. No one offered Him an easy yoke.

V. **THE SINLESS SON OF GOD DIED BETWEEN TWO THIEVES**

A. **Mark 15:27-28**

He who taught that *“it is more blessed to give than to receive”* (Acts 20:35) died between two men who took what did not belong to them.

B. **Hebrews 7:26**

1. He who was *“holy, harmless, undefiled”* died with those who were corrupt, dangerous, and defiled.
2. He who was *“separate from sinners”* died beside them.
3. He who has been made *“higher than the heavens”* was associated on that day with the scum of the earth.