



THEY COMPELLED A PASSERBY TO CARRY HIS CROSS
MARK 15:21-23

LUKE 23:26-31

²⁶And as they led him away, they *seized* one Simon of Cyrene, who was *coming in* from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it *behind* Jesus.

—The Cross Bearer—

The journey out of the city;

NUMBERS 15:35

³⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.”

HEBREWS 13:12-13

¹² So Jesus also *suffered outside the gate* in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³ Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured.

A lawful command;

MATTHEW 5:41

⁴¹ And if anyone *forces you to go one mile*, go with him two miles.

Cyrene: a place where the gospel found deep root?;

ACTS 2:10

¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and *the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene*, and visitors from Rome.

ACTS 11:20

²⁰ But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and *Cyrene*, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, *preaching the Lord Jesus*.

ACTS 13:1

¹ *Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers*, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, *Lucius of Cyrene*...

Who carried Jesus' cross?;

JOHN 19:16-17

¹⁶ So he delivered him over to them to be crucified...and he went out, *bearing his own cross*, to the place called The Place of a Skull...

Was Christ too “weak” to carry His own cross?;

LUKE 23:46

⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a *loud voice*, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

—The Lessons of the stand-in cross bearer—

The makeup of the church;

ROMANS 10:12

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

GALATIANS 3:26–28

²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 2:14–16

¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

The bearing of the cross foreshadowed;

GENESIS 22:6

⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and *laid it on Isaac his son...*

The disciple who is “passing by”;

MARK 1:16

¹⁶ *Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.*

MARK 2:14

¹⁴ *And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.*

LUKE 9:23

²³ And he said to all, “If anyone would *come after me*, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and *follow me*.

The calling of a disciple;

ROMANS 16:13

¹³ *Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; also his mother, who has been a mother to me as well.*

The disciples’ need for preparedness;

MARK 13:37

³⁷ “And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

—The Wine—

What was the purpose of the wine, and why Christ refuses?;

PROVERBS 31:6

⁶ Give strong drink to the one who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress;

MATTHEW 26:29

²⁹ I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

MARK 13:37

³⁷ “And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

The blessed apprehension of the Messiah;

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

ROMANS 5:8

⁸ ...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

ISAIAH 53:6

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; *and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

The Messiah bore the sin of His people with full apprehension and understanding. Nothing of our sin was hidden from Him, and He required no mind-numbing or sensory-dulling drugs in order to offer Himself up for His people.

ROMANS 5:8

⁸ ...God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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