

## **John 19:16-18**

### **Three Crosses**

#### **Introduction:**

When I think of the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ, I cannot help to think of the precision of Psalm 22, which is a Messianic prophecy describing the death of Christ and those who carried out the execution and all those surrounding Him in His suffering.

"I am a worm, and not a man, a reproach of men, and despised by the people. All who see me sneer at me; they separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying, commit yourself to the Lord; let Him deliver him; let Him because He delights in him." (Psa. 22:6-8)

Like a bunch of wild dogs and barbarians carrying out the hideous tortures of nailing limbs to a post of wood.

"For dogs have surrounded me; a band of evildoers has encompassed me; they pieced my hands and feet, I can count all my bones. They look, they stare at me." (Psa. 22:16-18)

The soldiers make sport of his garments; it becomes a form of entertainment.

"They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. Psa. 22:18)

#### **I. CRUCIFIED AT GOLOGTHA**

##### **A. Where did the practice of crucifixion come from?**

1. Persians, Carthaginians and Romans.
2. Roman citizens were exempt.

##### **B. Method of Crucifixion**

1. Sentence passed followed by the Scourging
2. Stripped of garments and nailed to a cross post.
3. Hoisted up on an upright post and feet nailed to it.
4. Death came as a lost of blood or suffocation.

#### **II. CRUCIFIED WITH TWO THIEVES**

##### **A. Numbered with the Transgressors**

1. Isaiah's fulfilled prophecy – Isa. 53:12
2. Daniel's fulfilled prophecy – Dan. 9:26

##### **B. These Two Thieves were guilty as charged – v. 18 cf. John 18:40**

##### **C. These Two Thieves both cursed Christ – Matt. 27:44; Mk.15:32**

##### **D. One of the Thieves became converted – Turn To: Luke23:39-43; Rom. 5;8,9**

##### **E. The Jews Jeered**

1. They mocked Jesus – Matt. 27:40,41,43
2. "He saved others he cannot save Himself" – Luke 23:35; Mk.15:32
3. Illustration: Donald Grey Barnhouse... "The Sea Captain"

##### **F. When Jesus died:**

1. Both Thieves had sin in them
2. One Thief refused to believe so his sin remained with him.
3. The Believing Thief had his removed and placed upon Christ

#### **Conclusion: Q. What did the believing thief do?**

1. He *admitted* his own need – Luke 23:40
2. He *recognized* that Jesus was the Savior – "Jesus" (Savior)  
Remember me when you come in your kingdom"
3. He *committed* himself to Him personally.