



The Way of Suffering

Brent Moody · Matthew 27:45–54 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- Darkness fell over the land of Egypt. Not ordinary darkness.
- Not over Egypt, but over Jerusalem, not over Pharaoh's house, but over the cross. And this time it's not Egypt's firstborn who died, but God's firstborn son.
- He is the sacrificial lamb, which then, because of his blood, is going to secure forgiveness and redemption and deliverance for all people.

1 Faithful Obedience Often Involves Walking a Very Hard Road

Matthew 26:39

- Jesus comes into Jerusalem knowing that he would not leave.
- If it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.
- God's highest goal, his highest end is not to make sure that my life is comfortable and easy.
- Obedience, though it does not give us ease of life and comfort, does give meaning to the sacrifices that we make and the suffering and the difficulties that sometimes come our way.
- Even though enemies attack at times and friends betray, the message here is that the way of Jesus is worth it.
- Look to Jesus, the author and founder of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross and despised the shame.

2 Sometimes Silence Is More Powerful Than Words

Matthew 26:55; Matthew 7:6

- Silence doesn't equal weakness or defeat.
- Jesus is not refusing to speak because the truth is unclear. He is silent because the truth has already been rejected.
- Silence here is not about avoidance, it's discernment.
- Silence can be a sacrificial act of trust in God's justice.
- One of the hardest parts of following Jesus is learning when not to speak.
- Jesus is the only innocent man to ever live. And at least on this occasion, he remained completely silent when he was falsely accused.

3 Death Is Not the End

Hebrews 2:14; Psalm 22

- Matthew will not let us see the cross as a quiet ending. Death is not the end.
- When you walk through darkness and difficulty, realize that God can work through the darkness to bring light and to bring life.

- Through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is the devil. Hebrews chapter 2 and verse 14.
- The cross represents human evil, but also God's power to work through evil, to bring light, to give life.
- It is the most difficult times that draw us closer to God.
- That curtain is now opened, representing this access that we now have to the throne of God, and it is granted through the body of Jesus.

THE CHALLENGE

Have you died with Christ this morning? That's the question. That is the only means by which you access his blood, that you have forgiveness and become part of this new covenant.

MY NOTES
