

Mark 15:29-32

And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" Likewise the chief priests also, mocking among themselves with the scribes, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Even those who were crucified with Him reviled Him.

Have you ever had a real bad day where it seemed everything went wrong? Then during the end of the day someone had some remark to say to you that felt like they were pouring salt into your wound. On days like this, don't you just want to throw in the towel and say forget everything, it's just not worth it anymore?

When you have a day like that, think of these verses here today and what was going on. Jesus had spent the night, and half the day being beaten and questioned over and over. Now Jesus is on the cross paying for the sins of the world, as He is, all those who He is dying for have something bad or a snide remark to say to Jesus. Also I want you to notice that in verses 30 & 32 Jesus is tempted to come down from the cross.

"save Yourself, and come down from the cross!"

"Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe."

It's like the devil was whispering in Jesus' ear how if He would just come down then these people would believe in Jesus and would follow Jesus. It seems so right and so simple for the Son of God to just come down from the cross and prove that He is God. But if Jesus did, then they may have believed, but they would all die in their sins, because the purpose of Jesus dying on the cross was to pay for their and our too. So even though it seemed like the easy or logical way out of the situation, Jesus didn't give into the temptation to give up.

I say this because we all go through hard times as well as bad days and the devil wants us to take the easy way out by whispering in your ear:

"Just go have a couple of drinks and forget about your problems"

or

"He or she is not worth it any more, just leave them"

or maybe,

"Is it really worth it being a Christian with everyone making fun of you at work or school"

and even

"No one will understand that you got pregnant, just get rid of it before anyone finds out"

What has the devil been whispering in your ear lately? Will you take the easy way out and face the consequences later, or will you hang in there and see the Lord working through the situation?

Jesus had a choice, and aren't you thankful that He didn't give up!
Will you?

† **2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NLT2)** *That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.*