

MESSAGES FROM THE CROSS

THE HARSHTEST OF SETTINGS

- A. Jesus was in excruciating pain
 1. Tendency when in pain to focus inward
 2. Tendency when in pain to lash out at others

WHAT WAS COMMUNICATED FROM THE CROSS (Luke 23:32-37 NLT)

- To the ones who hurt him
 1. The soldiers on crucifixion duty were brutal
 2. Jesus knew they had no idea who He really was
 3. The message is forgiveness for those who don't know God
- To the ones who mocked and insulted Him
 1. Insults and mocking are amplified when you are hurting - but He never responded
 2. Although Jesus appeared defeated, He could have saved Himself
 3. The message is the pure strength of unselfish love for the greater good
- To His mother (***John 19:25-30 NLT***)
 1. Jesus reached out to her in the middle of a spiritual, emotional, and physical battle
 2. There may have been conflict at home
 3. The message is that God cares about the worries and pains of this life
- When He declared it is finished
 1. Finished means to accomplish, fulfill, complete, pay for
 2. The requirement to free mankind was fulfilled
 3. The price to forgive our sins was paid
 4. Jesus had completed, finished, His part

GOD'S MESSAGE TO MANKIND ON THAT FIRST EASTER (Mark 16:1-6 NLT)

- When God raised Jesus from the dead
 1. Our sins have been forgiven
 2. His love was for our good
 3. He cares about our lives
 4. That our work is finished (***Romans 4:25 NLT***)