



#1 “Father, Forgive Them” *Luke 23:33-36 (ESV)*

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

Luke 23:33 *And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.**” And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!”³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”*

WHAT WAS GOING ON?

- A completely Innocent Man who had just been Unfairly Condemned in a Rigged Trial was suffering Inhumane Torture at the hands of Mocking People.

HOW DID JESUS NOT RESPOND?

- He did not respond in the way that we might expect a person in that situation to respond.
- He did not say what many of *us* would have said.

WHAT DID HE SAY?

- “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
- He said what none of us would have said.

WAS HIS PRAYER ANSWERED? YES!

WHY DOES IT MATTER ... FOR ME & YOU?

- Jesus is our Supreme Example of how to treat our own enemies.
- No sin is too evil to be forgiven by God!
- If there was forgiveness for these Jesus-hating Christ-killers, then God can forgive anybody for anything they have done!