

Fairview Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
Winter Bible Study
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Theme: Crossing the Lines
Title: The Lines Crossed at Calvary

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The Lines Crossed at Calvary

The lines which I will speak of are; The Death of Jesus, and the line that the lost must cross to get saved at Calvary!

Let us break down the title of tonight's lesson before we get into it fully. This for me means giving some definitions of some of the words so we might better understand the title.

Line: Extension; limit; border.

Cross: Go across or to the other side of

Calvary – is a English word form of the Latin word Calvaria, which was a translation of the Hebrew word Golgotha and the Greek word Cranion, by which was know the hill upon which Christ was crucified. It occurs in the Bible only in the gospel of Luke (**Luk 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.**), although it is more commonly used by writers and speakers than either of the other two names.

1. A place of skulls; particularly, the place where Christ was crucified, on a small hill west of Jerusalem.

"Crossing the lines" seems to me, the place where a distinction is made from one point to another. Such as from black to white or from night to day; at some point when or where there is no gray area. You would see or understand that it had become different.

Crossing lines in itself is neither good nor bad. What makes crossing lines good or bad is the subject of the matter. What I'm trying to say is crossing the lines can be good or it can be devastating! We have heard some wonderful lessons about crossing lines. Brother Durrant talked about crossing the line at Jordan. If they went across the line (which was the Jordan) they were on the right side and it was a good thing, but if God's people did not cross over Jordan, as some chose, it was not good. They were on the wrong side of what God wanted for them. So we see that crossing the lines can sometimes be a good thing or it can be a bad thing such as Brother Binion spoke of when talking about crossing idolatrous lines. There are going to be lines in our life that God would want us to cross as there will be lines which

God does not want us to even get close to, let alone cross over. So with these few thoughts I want to jump into my subject and title, "Crossing the Lines at Calvary."

Basil Faber (1520–1576) wrote:

"From pain to pain, from woe to woe,
With loving hearts and footsteps slow,
To Calvary with Christ we go...
Was ever grief like His? Was ever sin like ours?"

Luk 23:24-48 And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will. And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear *it* after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed *are* the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided *him*, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise. And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned.

What really took place in this record? In **Luke 23:24-48** of God's word we find a line was crossed; a line at Calvary. Scripture was fulfilled and a line that if not crossed would take the hope of the world away and without this hope all of humanity would spend eternity in hell! Jesus crossed this line. It was an act that only He, the one and only begotten of the Father, could do!! No one else was qualified to cross this line. This line could only be crossed by someone who had no sin. It could only be crossed by someone who was willing to die , who was willing to become a scapegoat, who was willing to be the final

sacrifice for sin, and by someone who loved the whole of the world not just a few. This was Jesus!!!

1Jn 4:7-10 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1Jn 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

Lets us look at **Luke 23:24-48** and break it down to see what we might learn of the happening at Calvary.

1. Calvary was a place of guilt "There were two malefactors with Him" (Ver 23) Christ was crucified between two thieves, as if He were a criminal! Those that passed by, just saw three guilty men, truly as scripture says, "**He was numbered with the transgressors.**" (Mar 15:28)

2. Calvary was a place of great compassion. Jesus said verse 34 "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do" This was a great and wonderful prayer from a man who had been beaten, mocked , spit upon, ridiculed and crowned with a crown of thorns and suffered such pain! It was a manifestation of God's love and compassion for his creation (**Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**) It was coming from the lips and heart of a broken Saviour! Jesus loved His enemies, and He blessed them that cursed Him. He freely took it all for sin- riddled humanity. No greater compassion has been seen in this world. No greater love has this world known.

John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Rom 5:6-11 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

3. Calvary was a place of Derision. (ridicule; mockery) **Verses 35-37 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.** Jesus in fact saved others as scripture tells us but that did not make the rulers think more highly of Him. It just made them hate Him more! How could He save Himself when the very reason He came to this world, (this Prince of Peace, this King of Glory, this King of Kings) was to die, not to save Himself. It wasn't that Jesus could not have saved Himself, scripture says, **Mat 26:53 Thinkest thou**

that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? He came for the very purpose of giving Himself a ransom for many and in doing so He was derided for it!!

4. **Calvary was a place of Testimony.** Luk 23:38 **And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.** In three different languages this title was place over the head of the Saviour of the world by Pilate. These words were placed there for ridicule and mockery but this title was absolutely, emphatically true! Little did Pilate and the people understand what they were saying. It was attributed to the irony of Pilate. By placing this sign they were in fact placing a testimony of who He really was. They had in truth crucified their King, their Messiah, Emmanuel, The Bright and Morning Star, The Beautiful Rose of Sharon, The only Begotten of the Father and in doing so showed humanity's enmity against God!

5. **Calvary was a place of salvation.** Verse 40-43 **But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.** There are two words in this verse that sum up what the bible is all about and what Jesus wants for all of mankind. I know this to be true. He wanted it for me as well as anyone that would come to Him. It does not matter what you've done in life or what you have said or where you might have gone it is still the same with the Lord! Those words are **"WITH ME"!!!** Jesus wants everyone to be with Him in eternity!

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Jesus wants all of mankind to be saved and spend eternity with Him in glory. The bible tells us that He went away to prepare a place for us!!

Joh 14:1-4 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

6. **Calvary was a place of death.** Verse 46 **And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.** Jesus was willing and obedient to the death of the cross. This death brought salvation to a lost and dying world. His death was by choice, His death was because of love, and His death paid the debt that was owed to God, His Father!

Rom 5:17-18 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of

life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

It was by this death of the Son of God that a line was crossed at Calvary. It needed to be crossed. It was this line that could only be crossed by one person, the only begotten of the father "Jesus The Christ"! This line was prophesized about in the Old Testament. From some of the earliest chapters in Genesis we see the picture and the line that would be crossed by Jesus at Calvary, and only Jesus!

Gen 3:6-21 And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return. And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

These animals had done no wrong. They were innocent. God took them and slew them to cover the nakedness of Adam and Eve. Innocent blood was shed for the guilty, which was a picture of what was needed to cover the sins of men! It was also a snapshot of the death that Jesus would die at Calvary. The death of the innocent to cover the sins of the world!

What other line can be crossed at Calvary?

As I see it, when I was saved by God's marvelous and wonderful grace I went to the line that was drawn at Calvary. Many have come and will come to that line but not many will cross it.

Mat 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

There is no other way to get saved than through the blood that Christ shed at Calvary. There is a line that must be crossed. It is crossed by grace and faith, not by works thus says the bible.

Eph 2:8-10 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Everything that has to do with the salvation of one's soul points to Calvary and what took place there! There is no other way man can be saved except by Jesus and Calvary! It took the death of the sinless Son of God at Calvary to make man free. Calvary was made for Jesus and Jesus came for mankind! We could not have had Calvary without Jesus and we could not have had Jesus without Calvary! They go hand in hand. Thank you Lord for your Son Jesus!!

John the Revelator wrote of this Jesus, the only one who would or could be worthy to save us from our sins!

Rev 5:1-14 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four *and* twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

I close with a prayer and a plea to those who are here tonight and to those who might read or hear this sometime in the future who are lost in their sins. Jesus crossed a line at Calvary that only He could cross. He did it for you so you might cross the line at Calvary through Him and be saved! God bless you and keep you all.