

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** The Crown

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Matthew 27:26-31

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1777

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The Lord Jesus was crowned with thorns.
  - i) It was not incidental.
  - ii) It was not accidental.
- b) The crowning of thorns was a cruel mockery.
  - i) It was a wicked act of hatred and rebellion.
- c) In another sense, Jesus being crowned with thorns was part of a drama that had been written before the world was created.
  - i) Jesus being crowned with thorns has a message that is indescribably glorious and wonderful.
- d) Matthew 27:26-31
- e) Today's message will share some wonderful truths about why the crown of thorns was not incidental nor accidental.
  - i) God allowed this to happen.
  - ii) Though it was done by the hands of wicked men, it was a part of the magnificent plan of Almighty God.

2) THE SACRED MYSTERY OF THAT CROWN (GENESIS 3:17-19)

- a) In one sense, the crown of thorns was the random thought, the cruel jest, and the hollow mockery of a Roman soldier.
  - i) On the other hand, there was a mystery here known in the heart and mind of God.
- b) The crown of thorns symbolizes the curse that was put upon humanity because of sin.
  - i) When God created mankind, God put mankind in the Garden of Eden.
    - (1) There were no thorns, thistles, or brambles.
      - (a) The first rose that ever bloomed was a rose that bloomed without thorns.
  - ii) Genesis 3:17-19
    - (1) The curse came upon Adam and Eve because they sinned; they disobeyed God.
    - (2) Thorns and thistles began to grow on planet Earth.
      - (a) Until this time, they had not grown.
      - (b) They are signs of the curse of sin upon humanity.
  - iii) Hebrews 6:8
    - (1) Jesus bore the thorns as He wore that crown.
  - iv) Had Adam not sinned, thorns would never have grown on the Earth.
  - v) Jesus wore that crown because He bore that curse.
- c) The thorns that Jesus wore on His head speak of the hardship, the sorrow, and the death that comes with sin.
  - i) Are you having heartaches?
  - ii) Are you having sorrow?
  - iii) Do you know sickness?
  - iv) The thorny pathway that we walk is because of sin.

- v) The bed of briars that we sleep on is because of sin.
- vi) No matter how well you may be or think you are right now, and no matter how you may feather your nest, there is a thorn in it.
  - (1) And sooner or later, you will find it.
  - (2) When you go out into the field to work, no matter what your occupation, you will be working in a thorny field.
  - (3) Your body will find, like the Apostle Paul, a thorn in the flesh.
  - (4) You will know sickness, you will know suffering, and you will know pain because something happened to creation.
- d) Romans 8:22
  - i) There is a curse upon everything because of sin.
    - (1) Look at every hospital.
      - (a) Sin did this.
    - (2) Look at every mental institution.
      - (a) Sin did this.
    - (3) Look at every jail.
      - (a) Sin did this.
    - (4) Look at every twisted and warped body.
      - (a) Sin did this.
    - (5) Look at all the heartache, pain, toil, and anguish, and you can write over it one word: sin.
  - e) The thorn is the emblem and the symbol of sin.
  - f) When Jesus died on the cross, He was crowned with thorns.
    - i) He wore the crown because He bore the curse.
- 3) THE SOLEMN MISERY OF THAT CROWN (MATTHEW 27:29-30)
  - a) The crown speaks of suffering and pain.
  - b) The crown was placed upon Jesus' head.
    - i) Matthew 27:29
    - ii) The temple is one of the most sensitive parts of the human body.
      - (1) Those great spikes (thorns) were put there.
  - c) With a club, the soldiers beat and battered the head of the Lord Jesus Christ.
    - i) Matthew 27:30
  - d) His face was so brutalized that one could not tell whether it was the face of a man or an animal.
    - i) With their hands, they snatched the beard from His face.
      - (1) Isaiah 50:6
    - ii) With their fists, they battered His face and loosened His teeth.
    - iii) Blood ran down His nostrils and mingled with the filthy spittle from their mouths.
    - iv) Isaiah 52:14
      - (1) He didn't look like a man.
        - (a) He didn't even seem human there upon the cross.
    - v) Isaiah 53:4

- e) Never be ashamed of Jesus, who wore that crown for you.
    - i) How could we ever blush to speak His name or to own His cause?
    - ii) Jesus wore our crown.
  - f) He suffered our Hell.
    - i) 1 Peter 3:18
- 4) THE SHAMEFUL MOCKERY OF THAT CROWN (MATTHEW 27:29)
- a) Matthew 27:29
    - i) They mocked Jesus because of their rebellion.
    - ii) They were saying that He was not their king.
      - (1) They would not bow the knee to Him.
  - b) They ridiculed His right to rule.
    - i) They didn't put a purple robe on Him.
      - (1) That was the sign of royalty.
    - ii) They put a red robe on Him.
      - (1) That was the symbol for sin.
    - iii) They didn't put a scepter in His hand.
      - (1) They put a reed in His hand.
    - iv) They didn't put a diadem on His brow.
      - (1) They put a crown of jagged thorns on His brow.
    - v) The homage they paid Him was to spit in His face.
  - c) The root of all sin is not what we do wrong that we should not do, or not that we fail to do what we should do.
    - i) Sin is refusing to bow the knee to our rightful King.
      - (1) These other things are the result.
    - ii) Sin is rebellion.
    - iii) Sin is a clinched fist in the face of God.
  - d) Psalm 2:1-3
    - i) Rage is what someone does when he doesn't know the answer.
    - ii) "His anointed" means "His Christ."
    - iii) We do not want Christ to rule over us.
  - e) When Jesus Christ came into this world:
    - i) He came into the Roman world of government.
    - ii) He came into the Greek world of culture.
    - iii) He came into the Hebrew world of religion.
      - (1) Those were the dominant thoughts, and they rejected Him.
        - (a) Rather than crowning Him with a diadem, they crowned Him with thorns.
  - f) Today, the same thing is happening.
    - i) In the world of government, we have outlawed the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (1) We move from one dilemma to another and from one crisis to another.
        - (a) And we leave the One (who is the only One) who can unscramble the whole mess standing outside the door.

- ii) In the world of culture, can you imagine standing up in one of the great universities and saying that Jesus Christ is the answer?
    - (1) There is room for humanism.
    - (2) There is room for blasphemy.
    - (3) There is room for fornication, for perversion, for adultery, but there is no room for the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iii) We do not bow the knee to Jesus Christ.
  - iv) Many churches in the world today are glorified country clubs with steeples on top.
    - (1) The Lord Jesus Christ is left standing outside the door.
    - (2) How many churches are still preaching the Bible, the blood, and the blessed hope of the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?
    - (3) It was a religious crowd that crucified the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (a) Most people don't need religion; they need to turn from religion to Jesus Christ.
  - g) People today, like people then, refuse to bow the knee to Jesus Christ.
    - i) Today, you will either bow the knee or crown Him with thorns one more time.
- 5) THE SAVING MINISTRY OF THAT CROWN (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21)
- a) Why did Jesus wear a crown of thorns?
    - i) God was teaching a lesson that He (Jesus) who knew no sin, God made to be sin for us.
      - (1) 2 Corinthians 5:21
    - ii) Our crown of thorns (our sin, our curse) was put on the head of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      - (1) Jesus bore the punishment.
  - b) You are a sinner, and your sin will be punished.
    - i) God is a holy God, and God has sworn by His holiness that all sin will be punished.
    - ii) God never has, God never can, and God never will let one-half of one sin go unpunished.
    - iii) Who will bear that punishment, you or Jesus?
      - (1) Sin will be pardoned in Christ or punished in Hell.
        - (a) But sin will never be overlooked.
  - c) 2 Corinthians 5:21
    - i) Jesus took our sin, and He carried it to the cross.
  - d) Where was Jesus Christ crowned with thorns?
    - i) At Calvary, at Golgotha, at Mt. Moriah.
      - (1) They are all the same mountain.
  - e) Genesis 22:1-14

- i) Centuries before Jesus Christ was born, God told Abraham to take his only son (the son whom he loved, the son of promise) to a place He would show him; not just any place but a certain place.
  - (1) And there, Abraham would offer his son.
- ii) Isaac knew they were going to make a sacrifice.
  - (1) He saw the wood to burn the sacrifice.
  - (2) He saw the fire to start the sacrifice.
  - (3) But where was the lamb?
    - (a) Abraham told Isaac that God would provide Himself a lamb.
      - (i) Genesis 22:8
- iii) Abraham didn't understand, but he believed God.
  - (1) He knew that God could raise Isaac from the dead.
    - (a) Hebrews 11:17-19
- iv) Isaac was strong and could have overcome Abraham, a man well over a hundred years of age.
  - (1) But he willingly submitted and became a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- v) God provided a substitute.
  - (1) There was a ram caught in a thicket.
    - (a) The Hebrew word means "a thicket of thorns."
    - (b) His head was caught in the thorns.
    - (c) God told Abraham to take him instead.
  - (2) The ram, crowned with thorns, became the sacrifice in place of the one who should have been and would have been sacrificed.
    - (a) No wonder Jesus said, "Abraham saw My day and was glad."
      - (i) John 8:56
- f) God preached the Gospel to Abraham long ago.
  - i) Here is one sacrifice (Isaac).
    - (1) He gets up.
  - ii) Here is another sacrifice, crowned with thorns.
    - (1) That is the saving ministry of the crown.
- g) Abraham built many altars.
  - i) Follow the life of Abraham, and you will find that the trail is dotted with altars.
  - ii) But he never built another altar after this episode.
    - (1) This was the perfect altar because it pictured the perfect sacrifice.
- h) After Jesus Christ died upon the cross, there was no need for any other altar.
  - i) Hebrews 10:14
  - ii) To build another altar would be blasphemy.
  - iii) It is finished.
    - (1) It is done; it is paid in full.
    - (2) Jesus paid it all, and all to Him I owe.
- i) The same sin that Jesus drank from that cup, He now wore on His head as He went to Calvary.

- 6) THE SOVEREIGN MAJESTY OF THAT CROWN (ACTS 4:27-28)
- a) Did Jesus die as a helpless victim?
  - b) Did Jesus die because things got out of control?
  - c) Do you think that perhaps Satan was on the throne, and Satan did all of this?
  - d) Acts 4:27-28
    - i) The Apostles were preaching after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
      - (1) They were seeing now with eyes washed with tears and revelation faith.
      - (2) They spoke to those who crucified Jesus.
  - e) The crucifixion of Jesus Christ was not incidental, it was not accidental, but it was a drama fulfilled in the heart and mind of God.
    - i) When Jesus wore this crown, He was the sovereign majesty, not a helpless victim.
    - ii) God ordained ahead of time what should be done.
      - (1) He was in perfect control.
      - (2) Crowns have always been a symbol of authority.
- 7) CONCLUSION
- a) Jesus, in the Glory, wears a crown.
    - i) A crown of peace.
    - ii) A crown of righteousness.
    - iii) A crown of glory.
  - b) Your security, your safety, and your salvation are found in a name.
    - i) A name above all names.
      - (1) Philippians 2:9
    - ii) The name of the One who wore your crown.
  - c) You have a choice today:
    - i) You can bow the knee and honor Jesus, or, you can tell Him to take that crown from off His head and put it on yours.
      - (1) You will bear your own curse.
      - (2) You will pay for your own sin because you refuse to bow the knee to the One who loves you; it is your choice.
  - d) Jesus offers to you amazing grace and wonderful love.
    - i) You can be saved today.
  - e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
  - f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
    - i) Romans 3:23
    - ii) Romans 10:9-10
    - iii) Romans 10:13
    - iv) Acts 16:31
    - v) John 3:16