

John 19:23-27 - Behold, your mother

Intro - On this Mother's Day we come to the 2nd *CrossWord*...the 2nd saying from the cross. There are 7 sayings Jesus uttered & they are recorded for our instruction/benefit. *The Sacred 7* are manna from heaven. As bread is kneaded, beaten & baked so too the Son of God was pummeled & crushed in the fires of oppression. The words that were pressed out Him in this process are most precious & glorious. Wonderful words of life. The 1st *CrossWord* was a prayer addressed to His Father about His enemies. In the heat of persecution and at the height of pain, Jesus relinquished the anguish to the Father. He prayed for His persecutors and gave them over to God. In the 1st *CrossWord* Jesus addresses His Father, but in the 2nd He addresses His mother. 4 main thoughts today. *DEVOTION PAIN RESPONSIBILITY FAMILY*

A mother's DEVOTION

- John 19:25 *"...but standing by the cross of Jesus was His mother..."*
 - What a remarkable scene this is & what a remarkable woman Mary was
 - Jesus was surrounded by a sea of enemies, but He sees some loving family
- Jesus suffered alone.... but there was someone by His side
 - Judas had betrayed Him with a kiss.... but the 1st one to ever kiss Him was there
 - All His friends forsook Him & fled, except the one who had tucked Him into bed
 - The crowds He had taught & healed had turned on Him...
 - ...but His mother walked with Him and wept for Him. (Luke 23:27)
 - The leaders rejected Him, but His mother's presence supported Him
 - The soldiers stripped Him but the one who 1st dressed Him was devoted to Him
 - She swaddled Him at His birth and stood by Him at His death
- Mary, the mother the Jesus, exhibited one of the greatest qualities of _____
 - SHE WAS THERE!
 - This is a glorious trait of a good mother. Her crown jewel is her consistent presence
 - Mary was not without doubts about Jesus (Luke 2:51; Mark 3:21, 31)
 - She had _____ but she was devoted
 - She had faults but she also had great _____ &....SHE WAS THERE!

A mother's PAIN

- Mothers experience great pain in bringing a child into this world
 - Mary also experienced great pain watching as her Child was leaving this world
 - She was there as the Son of her womb hung wounded and dying
- 40 days after the birth of Jesus a prophesy was given to Mary Luke 2:33-35
 - A sword was piercing Mary's _____ as she watched her Son suffer
 - Words cannot express the pain of this devoted mother

- On this Mother's Day do not forget a mother's _____
 - The great pain in childbirth and the greater pain in child rearing
 - Mary, the most blessed among mothers, also bore the greatest pain – Child dying

The Son's RESPONSIBILITY

- John 19:26
 - While redeeming humanity Jesus did not neglect family _____
 - *RESPONSIBILITY* is the main word for the 2nd *CrossWord*
- Mary was a _____ by this time in her life.
 - Jesus had the responsibility to care for His mother after His step-father died
 - Jesus came to fulfill the law that He wrote (Matt. 5:17)
 - The 5th commandment is to honor your mother = caring for your mother
 - 1 Tim. 5:4
 - Jesus is arranging and providing care for His widowed mother
 - Jesus commends His mother's care to His best friend John. John 19:26-27
- One of the *Sacred 7* is about a sacred responsibility
 - If one of Jesus' last words was about providing for His widowed mother, then I would say that family responsibility is a high _____
 - 1 Tim. 5:8 Prov. 23:22
 - We obey them when we are young & honor them when they are old

A new FAMILY

- Jesus had at least _____ siblings (same mother but different Father) Matt. 13:55-56
 - Mary had at least 7 kids so why did Jesus commend her care to His friend?
- I am reading between the lines....but I think it was because His brothers did not believe
 - John 7:5 Mark 3:21
- The faith is foremost in life Matthew 12:46-50
 - Jesus was providing for her spiritual needs as well as her physical needs
 - The _____ of faith is a new family
 - John could provide what Mary's other kids couldn'tSpiritual encouragement
- John 19:27b *"...the disciple took her into his own household."*
 - The day of her Sons death she moves into His best friend's house...John's house
 - 3 days later Peter & John hear from Mary Magdalene of the resurrection
 - They both run to the tomb and John out runs Peter
 - John stands at the entrance and looks in seeing the linen wrappings
 - Peter arrives and enters the tomb and sees the facecloth folded by itself
 - John enters the tomb and sees and believes John 20:8-10
 - John runs to his own home. Why?
 - John runs home to Mary to tell her that her Son had risen from the dead!
- The *new family* that Jesus provided for His mother was just what she needed for her faith
 - Eventually at least two of His brothers did believe
 - The 2nd *CrossWord* is about - *Devotion, Pain, Responsibility & New Family*