

CROSS ENCOUNTERS

Luke 23:26-46 NIV



Encounter #1: Simon from Cyrene CARRIED the cross.

"As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus." Luke 23:26 NIV

Encounter #2: Wailing women MOURNED the cross.

"A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.'" Luke 23:27-28 NIV (See also Hosea 10:8)

Encounter #3: Betting soldiers GAMBLED beneath the cross.

"And they divided up his clothes by casting lots." Luke 23:34 NIV

"When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. 'Let's not tear it,' they said to one another. 'Let's decide by lot who will get it.' This happened that scripture might be fulfilled." John 19:23-24 NIV (See also Psalm 22:18)

Encounter #4: Mockers OFFERED wine up to the cross.

"There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it." Matthew 27:34 NIV ("wine mingled with myrrh" - Mark 15:23)

"The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar." Luke 23:36 NIV

"Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.' A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge... and lifted to Jesus lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, 'It is finished.'" John 19:28-30 NIV (See also Psalm 69:21)

Encounter #5: Two criminals EXECUTED next to the cross.

"Then [the other criminal] said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus answered him, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.'" Luke 23:42-43 NIV

Encounter #6: Temple veil TORN IN TWO by the cross.

"And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last." Luke 23:45-46 NIV

"We have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtains that is, his body." Hebrews 10:19-20 NIV