**R964 Rumination for July 16, 2023**

The **T**heme: **The Sufferings of the Lord** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

**The Text:** *He was wounded for our transgressions; He was* ***bruised*** *for our iniquities.*  Isa. 53:5

The **T**hots:

Intro.: *bruise (literal or figurative)* is *beat to pieces, break (in pieces) …crush, destroy.* Strong

1. **The Lord’s Physical Suffering – the Bruising on…**
2. His **H**ead – *They…platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon His head….* Mt. 27:29*a;* Mk. 15:17; Jn. 19:2, 5

 *They spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head.* Mt. 27:30

1. His **F**ace – *I gave…my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:*

 *I hid not my face from shame and spitting*. Isa. 50:6

* 1. *As many were astonied at Thee; His visage was so marred more than any man…* Isa. 52:14
	2. *They spit in His face, and buffeted Him…others smote Him with the palms of their hands.* Mt. 26:67
	3. *Some began to spit on Him, and to cover His face, and to buffet Him, and to say unto Him,*

 *Prophesy: and the servants did strike Him with the palms of their hands.* Mk. 14:65

* 1. *And when they had blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face, and asked Him, saying,*

 *Prophesy, who is it that smote Thee?* Lk. 22:64

1. His **B**ack – *I gave My back to the smiters…* Isa. 50:6

 *Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged [flogged,* NRSV*] Him*. Jn. 19:1

1. His **B**ody *–*
2. **C**rucified: *When they were come to the place…called* ***C****alvary, there they* ***C****rucified Him…* Lk. 23:33
3. **C**laimed: *He* [Joseph] *went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.*

 *Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered*. Mt. 27:58

1. **C**onfirmed: *Then saith He to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands;*

 *and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing.*

 *And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God.* Jn. 20:27-28

1. The **B**lood that was **S**hed –
* *Being in an agony…His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.* Lk. 22:44
* *One of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, and…came there out blood and water.* Jn. 19:34
1. The **T**hirst that fulfilled **S**cripture – *Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished,*

 *that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.* Jn. 19:28

Cf. *…in My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink.* Psa. 69:21

1. **The Lord’s Mental Suffering:**
2. *Being in an agony…His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.* Lk. 22:44
3. (They put) *a reed in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him,*

*saying, Hail, King of the Jews!* Mt. 27:29b

1. *And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him.*

*Herod…set Him at nought, and mocked Him…* Lk. 23:10, 11

1. **The Lord’s Spiritual Suffering Mt. 27:46**

 *And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*

 *that is to say, My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?* Mk. 15:34

1. **The Summary of the Lord’s Sufferings** –
2. The **V**icarious Sufferings of **C**hrist – **F**oretold and **F**ulfilled: **Isa. 53:4-8**
3. *Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.*
4. *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to His own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb,*

*so He openeth not His mouth*

1. His **V**ictorious **C**ry: *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, It is finished:*

 *and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.* Jn. 19:30

1. The **V**eil (**C**urtain) in the Temple Rent – the way into God’s Presence Opened.
2. *Behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom;* Mt. 27:51
3. *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,* Heb. 10:19- 20

*By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh;*

1. His **V**ictory **C**onfirmed: I Cor. 15:54-57

*So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality,*

*then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written,*

*Death is swallowed up in victory. death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?*

*The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.*

*But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood;*

 *Sealed my pardon with His blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!* Philip P. Bliss

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 964**

1. Can you ever imagine the extent of the Physical Agony our Lord went through when He suffered for us just before and on the cross – the physical torture He was submitted to as the cruel Roman soldiers prepared Him for crucifixion? Crucifixion was one tortuous punishment that tormented the criminal to hours of suffering beyond human description as he lingered on the cross with hardly any strain of life left and yet death could not set in until every strain of nerve and muscle was stretched to the extreme and the victim collapsed and died. That would be the fate of a crucified criminal. But we thank God that our Lord was spared all these prolonged suffering though He went through all the anguish and agony of pain of crucifixion all the same by voluntarily surrendering His life to His Father as soon as He had finished what He came to do; thus, His triumphant cries at the end:

John 17:4 – *I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do.*

John 19:30 *– When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said,* ***It is finished****:*

 *and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.*

Luke 23:46 – *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.*

Thus, having finished the work God, His Father, gave Him to do in the world, He returned to His Father in heaven waiting for the time to return to earth again to receive His own to Himself that they can be with Him forevermore. Thus, He promised:

John 14:1-3 –  *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.*

In the meanwhile, keeping in our minds and in our hearts that our Lord had suffered so much for us, what then is our challenge and commitment to Him? Consider:

 I Pet. 2:21-24 – *For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us,*

 *leaving us an example, that* ***ye should follow His steps****:*

 *Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth:*

 *Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again;*

 *When He suffered, he threatened not;*

 *but committed Himself to Him that judgeth righteously:*

 *Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree,*

*` that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness…*

Could you be like Paul? He was crucified with Christ!

Gal. 2:20 *– I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:*

*and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.* **REFLECT**

1. Paul did not only say:

 Gal. 2:20 *– I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:*

*and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.*

But also:

 I Cor. 15:31 – *…in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily*

 Phil. 3:10 – *That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection,*

 *and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.*

 What do you understand by Paul’s aspirations in life above?

 Will you have the same ambitions and aspirations for your life?

 What are your aims in life? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** Consider C. T. Studd’s Words:

 *Only one life, ’twill soon be past, Only what’s done for Christ will last.*