

# What Was the Perspective of the Centurion on Jesus?

Services: Friday, April 14 at 11:00 & 7:00

Church Year: Good Friday – 2017

Easter: Service 7:00; Breakfast 8:30; Classes 9:30; Service 10:45

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Jesus Christ:

Today we focus on the Roman centurion, the man who had one hundred soldiers under his command and was authorized to crucify Jesus – thus to *nail Him to a cross* and *keep Him there until He was dead!*

That centurion heard what Jesus said from the cross, experienced the darkness from noon until 3:00, saw Jesus lay down His life, and felt the earthquake; then he confessed: **“Truly, this man was the Son of God.”**

## 1. Why that conclusion?

- a. Jesus’ crucifixion... *He willingly stretched out His hands!*
- b. Jesus’ prayer for forgiveness... *Father, forgive them...*
- c. Jesus’ care for His mother... *Asking John to care for her as his own mother!*
- d. Jesus’ promise to the criminal... *Today you will be with me in paradise!*

e. Jesus’ laying down of His life... *No one took it from Him, but, when His work was done, He laid it down!*

## 2. Why do we need the Son of God?

- a. We cannot save ourselves... *We are unholy and we have no ability to make ourselves holy!*
- b. We need the God-Man:
  - i. He lived without sin in our place!
  - ii. He bore our punishment!
  - iii. He opened heaven!

## 3. Let us repent and believe:

- a. We all deserve hell, *so let us be sorry!*
- b. Jesus is the only way for everyone, *so let us believe in Him as OUR only way to heaven!*

**Conclusion:** Let us pray:

Dear Father in heaven, though we deserve Your wrath, *You gave us Your Son*; though we deserve punishment, *You offer us the gift of forgiveness*; though we deserve eternal banishment from You, *You offer us eternal bliss in Your glorious presence!*

Therefore, move us to sincere sorrow, true faith, and much gratitude—for *Your gift of life and heaven through Jesus!* In His name, we pray...