

## How much is Enough? or “*Jesus Really Had A Bad Day*”

In Matt 26 & 27 and in John 17 & 19 we read about the last hours of Christ's life. I have often wondered what Jesus was thinking during those hours. There is a great Southern Gospel Song titles, When He was on the Cross, I was on His Mind. He did all of this for me and you. In John 17 we have the prayer of Jesus in the garden where He asks God the Father if there is any way other than death to accomplish His purpose. That purpose was to pay the penalty for the sin of the world. Let's look at what Jesus could have said.

1. **Jesus was betrayed** – *John 18:1–11; Matt. 26:45–50* Judas was one of the 12 disciples and had spent 3 years with Jesus and Jesus had poured His life into Judas just like He did for Peter, James and John. Jesus did not slight Judas, but included him just like the others and used him to be the treasurer for the group. It is never pleasant when we are betrayed, even if we suspect it is going to happen. Jesus could have said to His Father, “Isn't this enough?”
2. **Jesus was denied** – *John 18:15–17; 25–27; Matt 26:69–75* Peter, one of Jesus' closest and most trusted friends denied that he knew Jesus three times. Imagine how hurt Jesus must have been to experience the shame and loneliness that His best friend wouldn't even own up to knowing Him. Jesus could have said here, “Isn't this enough?”
3. **Jesus was beaten** – *John 19:1–3; Matt 27:30* Jesus understood that sin had to be paid for and that there needed to be bloodshed for God to forgive the sin of the world. As Jesus was being struck by the blows of the whip and the blood was running down His back and His body, wouldn't it make sense for Him to ask, “Surely this is enough?”
4. **Jesus was mocked** – *Matt 27:27–31* Jesus had been humiliated and embarrassed and ashamed like no other human had. He was ridiculed for His teaching and His claims about who He was and what His purpose on earth was. Imagine everything you stood for and believed being made fun of? It was beyond teasing. It was serious, hurtful, and degrading in every respect. It was designed to break His spirit and will. They wanted Him to

confess He was a fake.

5. **Jesus was forsaken** – *Matt 27:45–46* Even at the last, when Jesus saw the place where He was going and saw the Father turn His back on Jesus and felt forsaken, He could have said, “Enough is enough!” But He didn’t. Hopefully you and I will never see what Jesus saw at this moment. It is beyond horrible. It was hell itself and He knew he was going there. The father had prepared it just for the devil and his demons. He paid the sin penalty for us so we would not have to.
6. **Jesus was killed** – *John 19:31–34* Now here is where it really could have taken its toll. Jesus was already bleeding and knew blood was required. And now the soldiers took a spear and thrust it into His side causing the blood to be shed so we have the forgiveness of sin. It is that shedding of blood that we claim for our salvation and our forgiveness. Even then, Jesus could have said, “Really, isn’t this enough?”

How much is enough? How much is enough for us to say “Too much!” Don’t we often stop short of the goal or the fail to finish the job because we say, “enough!” What have you had to go through in your life that has made you say “enough”? Was it anything like what Jesus went through? Did it cost you more than you were willing to pay? Was it your own doing that got you in to the situation? Is there anything in your life right now where you are ready to say “enough”? Something so painful and hurtful that you feel you just can’t go on? If so, what are you going to do about it? Does God have the same control of you and the same right to your life as He did Jesus? Remember that Jesus could have stopped the process at any time. And so can you. But where would we be if Jesus had said enough? We would be paying our own sin debt and that is death. You must go on to the end. Finish the course as Paul says. (2Tim 4:7) Complete the task. Don’t quit and don’t give up. Paul tells us the there is a Crown of Life waiting for us if we do not quit. (James 1:12)