



SERIES: John Believe
SPEAKER: DAN COKE
Wednesday, May 10, 2023
Scripture: John 19:23–27
TITLE: His Humiliation

John 19:23-27

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, “They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.” So the soldiers did these things, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

People will often say that when you love someone, you’ll do crazy things. When I was younger, my friends and I came up with all kinds of funny nicknames for guys who fell in love and their behavior changed. As a pastor now, I can’t say most of those names publicly. One that we often tossed around was, “whipped.” As in, the individual no longer had a will of his own and was now under the spell of his girlfriend. Every guy found it humiliating until, well, he got “whipped.”

Jesus, in His first coming, experienced nothing but humiliation. That might seem hard for you and I to consider until you reflect on it some more. As in, you remember that He came from heaven where he had perfect unity and communion within the Godhead. His life on earth was 33 years of living the worst hotel experience you could ever imagine when you compare it to heaven. One pastor put it this way, to Jesus, when compared to his heavenly dwelling, the whole earth is ghetto!

Why then, would He come and suffer this humiliation? Why would we He even allow himself to suffer further humiliation like being crucified on a cross between two thieves? And allow himself to be stripped of his outer garments? One word: Love!

John 3:16:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Love compelled the king of kings to suffer humiliation and to lay down His life. God was not content to leave us to perish in our sin. This love is more than just a feeling of affection, but was a strong unction and inclination to do right to the powerless.

The most appropriate response that we could have to Jesus for sacrificially laying down His life is love. Love like the kind my immature mind mocked as a teenager, the kind that says nothing or no one else matter to me more than serving Jesus. Is that who you want to be? I pray it is. Amen.