

The Great Thirst

“Jesus said, I thirst” (Joh. 19:28)

Imagine, the One who made the rivers, the lakes and the sea, having to say : “I thirst!”

Jesus was thirsty, because for hours, through the hottest part of the day, He had to hang on a cross. (Mark 15:25, Mark 15:33-34). His thirst on the cross was a substitutionary thirst; it represented the spiritual thirst of a confused, lost world! His suffering was the fulfilment of God’s plan for the salvation of lost sinners. On the cross the price was paid that saves and redeems every repent sinner from the penalty of sin. The curse of sin that Jesus had to carry and which He had to pay for, was symbolically illustrated by the crown of thorns that was placed on His head (Gen.3:18).

The cynical reaction of the soldiers of using a stalk of hyssop to apply a sponge soaked in vinegar to Jesus’ mouth, was a fulfilment of the prophetic action of the Israelites when they used hyssop to apply the blood of the lambs to their door frames and which saved them from the angel of death (Joh. 19:28, Ex. 12:22).

(Hyssop symbolises cleansing:

“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean” (Ps.51:7, Lev. 14:4-7, 48-53, Num.19:1).

Spiritual thirst is quenched by placing your trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour and having faith in His redemptive work on the cross:

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink” (Joh. 7:37).

“...whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (Joh. 4:14).

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