

Scripture

Mark 15:33-41 NCB

Beginning at midday, there was darkness over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

At three o'clock, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

On hearing this, some of the bystanders said, "Listen! He is calling Elijah."

Someone ran off, soaked a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait! Let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

Then Jesus cried out in a loud voice and breathed his last.

And the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two, from top to bottom.

When the centurion who was standing facing him saw how Jesus had breathed his last, he said,

"Truly this man was the Son of God."

A number of women were also present, looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.

These women used to follow Jesus when he was in Galilee and minister to his needs.

And there were many other women there who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

Thought for the Day

The excruciatingly painful death of Jesus on the cross shows how far human jealousy can go in inflicting suffering.

Let us be aware of the temptations that we have to bring our rivals down.

Love your enemy.

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do!"

Can I meet that challenge?



Eugene Delacroix, 1845