

# Love Conquers All

Matthew 27:39-43

There are many amazing stories in the Bible. Each of these stories represent truths that our Heavenly Father wants to convey to mankind. They are not just stories for the sake of enjoyable reading, but rather to help the reader glean the truths of God. Over the last 45+ years of being a Christian, it has been my privilege to be a student of the Bible. Summing up my experience would be that the more I learn about God's Word the more it shows me how little I really know. It is imperative that all Christians have a consistent, daily reading of the Bible. If we want to know God, we must know what He has said to us, and it only happens through reading the Scripture.

We recently celebrated the Easter Season, and I always find the week of Passion very interesting. It was during the Good Friday Service that I had the honor of sharing about one verse of Scripture. That Scripture says, "He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him" (Matthew 27:42). This statement is one of the most amazing ones I have ever read. If you would



JUST A THOUGHT

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just stop and think about trial after trial, lie after lie, and finally, they speak the truth. Throughout the entire ordeal that Christ experienced, the only things that were said about Him were mere fabrications and lies. But now, as He hangs on an old rugged cross, they decide to tell the truth. Please understand, they didn't know that they were telling the truth or they wouldn't have said it. They had now even be-

come authorities on what Jesus could and could not do:

1. What they deemed He could do. They mocked Him about the point that He had saved others, but how could that be, He couldn't even save Himself. They were only seeing this event from a very carnal, shallow view. What they were experiencing was much more than physical death to a man they had brutally beaten. What was really taking place was a spiritual war. This war was the powers of Satan and the forces of Almighty God. Do you believe that Jesus could have saved Himself? We know that He could have called 10,000 angels to deliver Him.

2. They could not see beyond the present. Historians tell us that while Jesus hung on the cross there could have been as many as a million passersby. What was it that they didn't see? There on that hill of Mt. Calvary there were a multitude

of angels present, as well as demons. The demons believed by Jesus' death that they would be victorious, but when Jesus said "It is finished" death, hell, and the grave would be defeated. The price was now finally paid. The blood and life of Jesus for the sins of mankind.

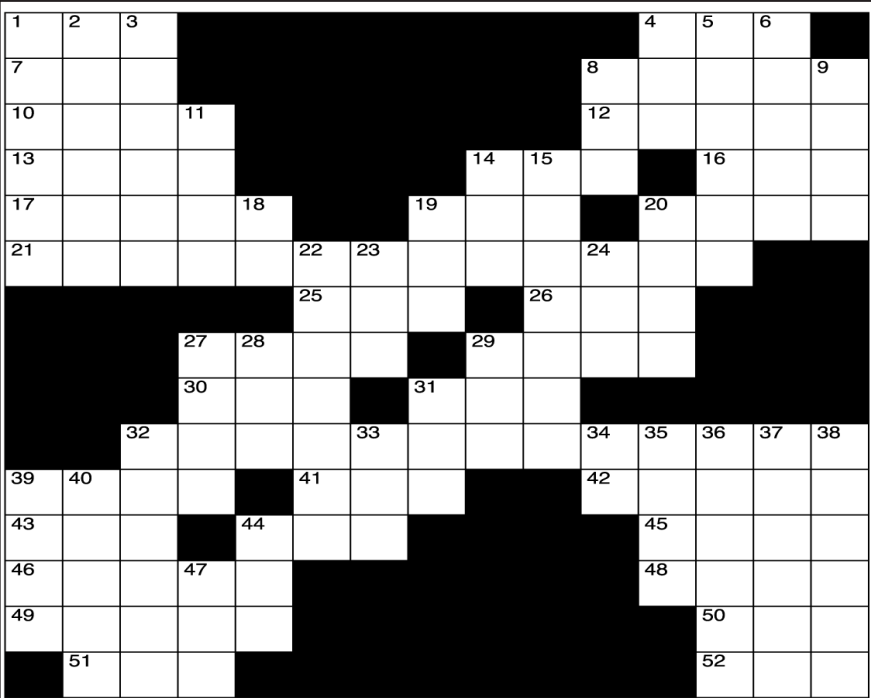
3. A moral necessity compelled Him to die. The righteousness of God had to be vindicated, there was a price to pay for sin. He

could only save others by His self-sacrifice, "For He hath made Him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (II Corinthians 5:21).

4. The Great Truth. There was a power within Him that wouldn't let Him save Himself. He came to do the will of His Father, and the cross was a necessity. They said, "He cannot," but they should have said, "He

will not!" The words they spoke were spoken in great bitterness and hate.

Isn't it amazing what we can learn from just one verse of Scripture? God's Word is full of wonderful stories, but the great story of the cross that Jesus bore was love! Love never fails, and it never will. My prayer for all of us is that we might have the desire and strength to show the Love of Jesus everywhere we go.



## CLUES ACROSS

1. Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)  
4. American time  
7. Satisfaction  
8. Diving duck  
10. Very small amount  
12. Metrical units  
13. An ignorant or foolish person  
14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)  
16. It may sting you  
17. Turn outward  
19. Perform on stage  
20. "CSI" actor George  
21. Localities  
25. Make a choice  
26. Indicates position  
27. One of Thor's names  
29. Indian musical rhythmic pattern
30. "The Raven" author  
31. Take in solid food  
32. Legendary QB  
39. Sorrels  
41. Organization of nations  
42. Texas pharmaceutical company  
43. Mathematical term  
44. Expression of disappointment  
45. Abba \_\_, Israeli politician  
46. Hide away  
48. Salad restaurant  
49. Daughters of Boreas (mythology)  
50. Men's fashion accessory  
51. Political action committee  
52. Unhappy

## CLUES DOWN

1. Make unhappy  
2. Heard the confession of  
3. Capital of Taiwan  
4. Fiddler crab  
5. Brazilian dances  
6. Fit with device to assist breathing  
8. Brother or sister  
9. Pastries  
11. "Lone Survivor" director Peter  
14. Boat type (abbr.)  
15. Apertures (biology)  
18. Suffix  
19. Creative endeavor  
20. Icelandic poem  
22. Spanish dances  
23. Town in Central Italy
24. Cars need it  
27. Mimics  
28. Rocky peak  
29. Cigarette (slang)  
31. One point south of due east  
32. Soap actress Braun  
33. Large domesticated wild ox  
34. Island nation  
35. Appear  
36. Addictive practices  
37. Loss of control of one's body  
38. Type of poster  
39. Greek mountain  
40. Funny person  
44. One and only  
47. Pouch

Answers to puzzle on Page 12

## SUDOKU

		5		4	3		8	
9	4		7					
8		7					3	1
								3
		9	1	3		5		
					2	8		
7								
	5		8	1			7	9
				7			5	4

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Answers to puzzles on Page 12