

Matthew 27:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

Analysis

The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth (ὠνείδιζον, *ōneidizon*)—reproached him. Initially both criminals mocked Jesus (contrast Luke 23:39-43, where one repents). Even the dying, themselves under judgment, revile the Sinless One.

This detail emphasizes Jesus's total isolation: abandoned by disciples, rejected by Israel's leaders, mocked by passersby, reviled even by fellow condemned criminals. **I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none** (Psalm 69:20). Total abandonment precedes the greater abandonment: **My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?** (v. 46).

Historical Context

That even condemned criminals mocked Jesus shows how thoroughly public opinion had turned. If one thief later repented (Luke), it was after extended time on the cross—perhaps hearing Jesus's prayer, 'Father, forgive them' (Luke 23:34).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does the criminals' mockery reveal about human nature—that even the condemned condemn the innocent?
2. How does one thief's eventual repentance (Luke 23:40-43) demonstrate that it's never too late to turn to Christ?

Interlinear Text

οἱ	δ'	αὐτῷ	καὶ	οἱ	λησταὶ	οἱ	συσταυρωθέντες
which	G1161	the same	also	which	The thieves	which	were crucified
G3588		G846	G2532	G3588	G3027	G3588	G4957
αὐτῷ	ὠνείδιζον	αὐτῷ					
the same	cast	the same					
G846	G3679	G846					

Additional Cross-References

Mark 15:32 (Cross): Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

Matthew 27:38 (Cross): Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.