

## A Tale of Two Crowns

**Mar 15:17** And they put purple on Him, and they plaited and placed a crown of thorns on Him.

**Mar 15:18** And they began to salute Him, Hail, king of the Jews!

**Mar 15:19** And they struck His head with a reed, and spat at Him. And placing the knees, *they* bowed to Him.

Jesus suffered for us so that we could be freed from the curse. It is interesting to note that Jesus shed His blood seven times to redeem us from sin and its whole curse.

1. **In the garden of Gethsemane he sweated blood-** This was to redeem us from a will that was not always obedient to God. Through claiming redemption through His blood God will strengthen your will to believe God.
2. **At the whipping post-** Jesus shed his blood to redeem us from all sickness and diseases- Claim redemption today from illness by His shed blood.
3. **The crown of thorns-** We will look at this in our devotion today- so hang on!
4. **His hands were pierced-** This was for all our sinful deeds we did. All our sins were paid and overpaid through the blood of Jesus- proclaim today with boldness that all your sins have been forgiven through the precious blood of the Lamb of God.
5. **His feet were pierced-** This was for all the ways we have strayed from God in our heart and took crooked paths of unrighteousness. If your walk is not right with God today then claim redemption from this waywardness by the shed blood from His feet.
6. **His side was pierced-** This redeems us from broken hearts. The sword pierced Jesus heart. First this redeems us from the fact we broke God's heart by turning from him and being lost and it is the redemption for our heart being broken by sin and by the weapons of Satan.
7. **The bruising of his heel-** A bruise is internal bleeding. This blood was for redemption from worthlessness and shame. The heel is the lowest you can go. Jesus took bruising- internal bleeding to redeem you from those inward feelings of worthlessness that no one else can see. He has made you royalty in Him!

Lets focus today on the third place Jesus shed blood. This was with the crown of thorns. Thorns in the bible represent the curse. Thorns were made into a crown and jammed down on Jesus head which cause blood to gush out upon his head and face. His brow was pierced for us. The brow represents our thought life. We must be redeemed from cursed thinking. Cursed thinking leads to cursed living! What is cursed thinking? You might think it is thoughts

about sinning, or hatred, or such things. These are wrong thinking but cursed thinking goes deeper.

When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden they immediately knew they were guilty because of what they had done. They then thought that God was out to get them. They hid themselves. They covered themselves. From that day mankind has had cursed thinking that in order to be as they ought to be they have to live good enough for God or He will not bless them or punish them. We see this in Cain after he killed His brother Abel. God told him that he would wander on the Earth, but Cain said that He would leave God's presence. God never said that! Cain had cursed thinking that God would have nothing more to do with him. There are many people that have cursed thinking today.

**(Col 1:21 KJVR)** And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

People in the world think that God is an enemy to them because of their wrong actions. They alienate themselves from God in their own mind. They make God an enemy in their own mind! Many Christians do the same. They do not want to get into God's presence because of sin in their life. They alienate themselves. Cursed thinking is legalistic thinking. It is thinking that you must earn the right to fellowship with God and enjoy His blessings.

Many people live under condemnation and they beat themselves up because of their mistakes and sins. This is because of cursed thinking. Notice that the soldiers took a reed and beat on Jesus' head with the crown of thorns. This represents the beating of condemnation that we ourselves, others, and Satan inflicts upon us for our sins and failures. This beating we take comes from cursed thinking! We think we should pay for our wrongs so we beat ourselves up, we let others beat us up for our wrongs, and especially we let the devil do it to us! We feel we should be better and deserve punishment so we punish ourselves, or we believe God is punishing us. This is where depression comes from. It comes from this inward beating of condemnation. Jesus' brow was pierced and His blood flowed to redeem you from this cursed thinking. God wants to give you another crown in place of the crown of thorns.

**(Psa 103:4 LITV)** who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you *with* kindness and tender mercies;

God wants to crown you with His kindness and mercy. All your sins have been paid for and all God's anger has been poured out on Jesus your sacrifice. Jesus died and rose again and God now offers you nothing but grace, kindness, and tender mercies. He has given you His righteousness as a gift. **Jesus brow was pierced so that this light could get into your dark head and dawn upon you!** You no longer must try to be good enough for God or punish yourself. A sacrifice has been found and has been accepted.

His blood is ever before the Father that cries out mercy and forgiveness in your behalf! Take the crown God is offering today. Receive the light of His love because of the pierced brow of your Savior. You can reign today because of His righteousness!

**Confession:** Jesus thank you for taking the crown of thorns for me to redeem me from cursed thinking. You are not mad at me and I do not deserve to be punished because Jesus took my sins and my punishment. I will not beat myself up any more because of my failures and I will not let anyone else do it, especially Satan! Lord I receive your crown of kindness and tender mercies today. Thank you for blessing me today because of Jesus and what He did for me! Amen.