



Sons of Saint Joseph tm

ST. THERESA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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6 – SOSJ- Masculinity: The triumphant Jesus Saturday, August 10, 2024

Luke 23: 44-49

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”; and when he had said this, He breathed his last. The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said, “This man was innocent beyond doubt.” When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events

Questions

1. What did Jesus do to prepare His apostles for His death, and did any pay heed? How many times have we professed fidelity to Christ and then when severely challenged on this from people we know or don't know, we find excuses for backing away? Be honest.....!
2. The Gospel reveals many signs occurring at Jesus' death: the eclipse, veil in temple torn down. What do they mean? How do they point to triumph for us Christians? How could a first century Israelite see this as a triumph based on the Old Testament?
3. How does the silence of Christ, the refusal of revenge, the seeming passivity, the forgiveness of all point to a true masculinity of the Lord, as opposed to the world's idea of masculinity?
4. Familiarity can breed contempt, but also apathy. How should the crucifixion of Christ dominate our mindset every day? How do we explain it as victory to our children? How do we train children to use the cross of Christ as the guiding force for all their decision making in life?