



water from rock

## Selah: Stop, Look, Listen – April 14, 2022

The Lord be with you.

As we are in these holiest days of our Lord's passion, we're coming up to Good Friday. I have a question for you. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? That is the haunting question that is put to us by that old spiritual...

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Sometimes it causes me to tremble. Tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

What do you say to that question? Were you there? Reverend Robert Green Lee was the late great southern pastor who was visiting the holy land, and on his first day there in Jerusalem, he asked his guide to take him to what is called Gordon's Calvary. Perhaps you've seen pictures of it. It's a skull shape till that some believed the place where Jesus gave His life for us.

And Reverend Lee tells his guide that he wants to climb to the top of Gordon's Calvary. But his guide said, Oh no, oh no, no. That cannot be done. That is not permitted. But Reverend Lee insists, and finally, the guide agrees, so that the guide and Reverend Lee, they climb to the top of Mount Calvary, and standing there on top of Calvary, reverently begins to weep. The guide is silent with him for a moment, and then he asked Reverend Lee, he says, "Excuse me, sir, but have you been here before?" And Reverend Lee, wipes the tears from his eyes and he answers, oh yes, yes. I have been here before. I was here 2000 years ago. And you know the gospel, good news is that you and I, we were there. That we were right there with Jesus as He died for the sins of the world.

Here is how the apostle Paul puts it in Galatians chapter 2, verses 19 and 20, where he speaks for every believer. Paul says, I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me, and the life I now live in the flesh. I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.

You and I, yes. We were there when they crucified our Lord. We were there.

Now, did you notice the number of I and me statements and what the Apostle Paul says here... Paul's verses are filled with I and me. Right there with Jesus, I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but the Christ who lives in me.



## water from rock

So were you there when they crucified my Lord? The real answer is that, that you and I, we were there, we were there in a very real way as our sin, all of our sin. Every last sin was placed on Jesus. We were there.

That great prophecy of Isaiah chapter 53 tells us the good news like this, it says, that the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. That He was wounded for our transgressions. Crushed for our iniquities.

We were there when they crucified our Lord, so that we might not face judgment, so that we might be the children of God to forever live in God's life and God's love. We were there, joined with Jesus in His death, that we might forever be joined with him in his life. Jesus lived the life that whether you and I should have lived, and He died the death that we should have died. We were there with him, and that is why we call that most horrendous of days, the days of Our saves death that we actually call it Good Friday. It is Good Friday, when humanity was at its worst, God was at his best, putting the world right with Himself.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

The gospel, good news is that you were there. Won't you believe it? Won't you rejoice in it, and let us praise and give thanks to the Savior for all that he has done for us, and let us tell the world the savior's love.

I am Tim Smith of fellow traveler. Thank you for listening. Until next time.