



Relationship w/Jesus

ARTICLE

A Simple Man with a Great Destiny

intentional

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"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

Jesus, being tortured: beat on, ridiculed, spat upon, mocked and flogged, He was unbearably weak. With His body shattered, the Roman soldiers expected Him to carry out the remainder of His sentence, that is, to be crucified.

Showing off Jesus as a spectacle, the soldiers pushed and ordered as they made their way to Golgotha. Unable to move one more inch, Jesus collapsed under the weight of the cross. The soldiers weren't about to be one of the lowly to carry a cross. Oh, no, this wasn't going to happen. So they found one person, who was near, to carry this cross for Jesus. He was a simple man, walking along, minding his own business, in the wrong place at the wrong time; or rather, in the right place at the right time.

The Roman soldiers compelled Simon to finish carrying Jesus' cross. He was a Cyrenian; Rufus and Alexander's father. You see, Cyrene is in Africa, which is quite a distance for a man to travel in those days. It says in the Bible he was coming out of the country. So we probably can surmise he just got to Jerusalem. He didn't just wonder to Jerusalem, he purposed to be there. Did he feel spiritually drawn to go to Jerusalem?

One innocent bystander was ordered to carry our God's cross. A simple man named Simon.

"And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross." Matthew 27:32

"And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross." Mark 15:21

"And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus." Luke 23:26

So, why him? Why was carrying Jesus' cross such a big deal? Why put Simon's name in the Bible?

God had this plan from the beginning. Simon was chosen for this special mandate. Jesus needed help. Simon carried the cross while Jesus lugged Himself to Calvary.

Jesus was not alone. Satan wants everyone to feel as if they are all alone. Or the devils try to isolate



you to keep you all alone. But you don't have to be. Sometimes being in the right place at the right time is simply just attending a service of the one true church. Don't deceive yourself into thinking watching church on television will fulfill the soul. It cannot. You are still isolated. Get yourself up, eat and drink for there is a sound of abundant rain in the church.

"And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain." 1 Kings 18:41

Each one of us must carry our cross. Jesus knew from the beginning that we could never be able to carry it alone. In life, we deal with a variety of situations and issues. Just as Simon helped Jesus, we too need to help one another. I am there for you and, I pray, you are there for me.

When life can be too much to bear, we are there for each other. Scripture tells us to pray for one another, love one another, teach one another, support one another, give to one another, uplift and take care of one another. We don't have to wait to be told by our Pastor. We don't have to wait to be asked. When we see someone in need, we should be moved by compassion to help them. We pray for them, and help them carry their cross, whatever the need.

Whatever your hands see to do, if it be right, do it. Whatever your mouth needs to say, if it be right, say it. Whatever the Lord our God says to do, do it.

Simon had a great destiny, to be available to Jesus our eternal God, to carry His cross.

It's up to you; will you be a Simon and help carry a cross?

"Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull,"

Matthew 27:27-33

