

The Gospel of Mark
A Borrowed Tomb
Mark 15:42-47

We don't have to look far to find situations that seem hopeless. Hopelessness abounds in our world. It seems that hopelessness dominates the worldview of some. In the novel, *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., he creates a book titled, "What Can a Thoughtful Man Hope for Mankind on Earth, Given the Experience of the Past Million Years?" The whole book consists of one word: "Nothing."

1. The gospel calls us to action.
2. The gospel calls us to introspection.
3. The gospel calls us to celebration.

Jesus chose the words and deeds of his last moments very carefully and deliberately. He left nothing to chance. There were no accidents or coincidences that day. God chose the path. He chose the nails. He planted the trio of crosses and painted the sign. God was sovereign in the details of the death of His Son. And in the details of His death we see the message, "I did it for you. I did it all for you." And I would add, to the glory of the Father and His kingdom.

For further consideration:

Absurdities and ironies. The hill of Calvary is nothing if not both. What absurdities surround the cross? What ironies have seen at the cross? Which of them intrigue you most? How would you have written the drama of redemption had you been asked to be its author? Could you imagine having to bury your son to save the world? How have you responded to Calvary. What have you brought to the cross? What will you let Christ bury? Take some time to consider the weight of unconfessed sin you still unnecessarily carry. Consider the relationships that you have harmed or have harmed you in some way. Consider whether there is any bitterness or jealousy or envy in you. Would you offer those things to Christ for burial so that you might live unshackled from those burdens and free in Christ?