

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

**8771 FM 35
Union Valley, TX**

Pastor: Steve Bishop

MISSION STATEMENT

***Ride out and round up the lost cowboys and cowgirls
Everywhere so they can know our Savior, Jesus Christ.***

What to do when you are unfairly judged.

It is difficult and dangerous to sit very long in the seat of judgement and not let it affect the way you live (or give them power over you).

What do you do?

Pretend it doesn't bother you...that doesn't work for very long...

As Christians our Savior sat in this seat the entire time of his public ministry. He was constantly misjudged.

Matthew 11:19 ***“The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”***

They considered him a drunk, friend of prostitutes, thieves, supporter of Rome, then accused of trying to overthrow Rome...don't know who your father is. Somehow, He never gave power to those who judged him.

How can we do that? It's fun to think how Jesus would have handled it. He knew everyone's thoughts. Jesus could have said, “Go to Hell!” and they would have! But Jesus never used his power for his own benefit. There is no way for words to paint the picture of what happened.

Luke 23:35-39 ***³⁵The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others, let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”***

³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the King of the Jews.

³⁹One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

Jesus is dying and they kept judging him. Rulers, soldiers, people he had healed were not defending him; his followers ditched him. All of this happened following verse 34.

Forgive them, they don't know what they are doing.

Are you kidding me? They really don't know what they have done. They are insecure, doing what they know to do, don't hold this against them. They don't know the significance.

If there is any way out, it's through forgiveness.

Mark 35:37-39 ³⁷***With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.*** ³⁸***The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.***

The veil that was torn...30 feet high, 4 inches thick, it took 300 people to hang it. It separates the holy God from the sinful man – a barrier. The High Priest went in on Yom Kippur (day of pardon), September 23rd. When Jesus breathed his last breath, THE BARRIER was gone. Earthquakes may have broken the lenth (large wooden beam the Veil hung on).

At the moment of the worst wrong judgement, God broke the barrier between a Holy God and Sinful Man.

³⁹ ***And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God."***

Luke 6:35-36 ³⁵ ***But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.*** ³⁶***Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.***

Love your enemies – how about just ignoring them?

Do Good – how about just don't rut their yard, or all the other evil things I can think of to do!

We say, "It won't do any good" God says, It's not for them, it's for YOU!

Sons of the most high – when you sit under judgement, others are telling you who you are.

This is the most important message you will ever show others.

If there is any victory over being unfairly judged, it is through forgiveness.

Romans 2:4 ***Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?***