

# CrossBeams: Final Moment • Final Message

*The Final Moment of Christ is the Final Message of the Church*

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"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth - to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people - saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water'" (Revelation 14:6-7)

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## 1. Fear God: "Do you not fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?" (Lk 23:40)

Luke 1:1-3: eyewitnesses | carefully investigated | orderly account

We say that the Devil is in the details, but **details also contribute to the certainty of our faith!**

**Chain of Communication:** Thief to Thief - Bystander - Apostle - Luke - Scribe - Translator - We - ?!  
*Who will you tell?!*

**Confession . . . Conversion:** "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom" (Lk 23:42)!

**Similar to Beatitudes** (Matt 5:3-6) - recognition and articulation of utter helplessness and need!

**Jesus:** "I say to you today, You will be with Me in Paradise" (Lk 23:43)!

**Paradise:** reminder of creation - only 3x in NT (2 Cor 12:4; Rev 2:7); Comma - Exclamation Mark!

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## 2. Give glory to God: "So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, 'Certainly this was a righteous Man" (Luke 23:47)!

- Recognizing Jesus' innocence goes with recognizing one's guilt!
  - Glorifying God is the logical reaction to the righteousness of Christ!
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## 3. The Second Coming: ". . . who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God" (Lk 23:51).

Joseph was an Adventist - ad = to; venire = to come

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## 4. The Sabbath: "That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near . . . And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment" (Lk 23:54,56).

- Do you have a **Preparation Day**? Preparation - then "Sabbath drew near" . . .
- **Prophetic Parallel:** ". . . they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who

**keep the commandments of God** and the faith of Jesus. Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, 'Write: '**Blessed** are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may **rest** from their **labors**, and their **works** follow them" (Revelation 14:11-13).

- **Sabbath:** Centerpiece between Cross and Resurrection

"Nicodemus, when he saw Jesus lifted up on the cross, remembered His words spoken by night in the Mount of Olives: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:14, 15. **On that Sabbath, when Christ lay in the grave, Nicodemus had opportunity for reflection.** A clearer light now illuminated his mind, and the words which Jesus had spoken to him were no longer mysterious. He felt that he had lost much by not connecting himself with the Saviour during His life. **Now he recalled the events of Calvary.** The prayer of Christ for His murderers and His answer to the petition of the dying thief spoke to the heart of the learned councilor. Again he looked upon the Saviour in His agony; again he heard that last cry, "It is finished," spoken like the words of a conqueror. Again he beheld the reeling earth, the darkened heavens, the rent veil, the shivered rocks, and his faith was forever established. The very event that destroyed the hopes of the disciples convinced Joseph and Nicodemus of the divinity of Jesus. Their fears were overcome by the courage of a firm and unwavering faith" (DA 775).

### Sabbath is Cross Review and Resurrection Preview

**5. Death: "And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and then observed the tomb and how His body was laid" (Lk 23:55).**

- A real death results in a real resurrection; only a real death results in a real resurrection!
- What humans close, heaven opens!

**6. 3 Messengers: "Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles" (Lk 24:9-10).**

- 3 messengers mentioned by name: women are absolutely crucial in spreading the news of the resurrection. *Note: men won't believe you at first; don't let that deter you. Press on - they'll get it eventually!*

**7. The Grand Finale: Luke 24 and the 3 Angels' Themes . . .**

Verse 47:	to all nations: repentance, remission of sins
Verse 48:	witnesses = missionaries with credibility
Verses 49, 51:	Holy Spirit
Verse 52:	worship
Verse 53:	temple (sanctuary!), God

**Final Moment. Final Message.**

**The Final Moment of Christ is the Final Message of the Church,  
and the Final Message of the Church leads to the Final Moment for the World!**