

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

My Heart Was Hard As Iron

Luke 23:33-49

♩ = 60

Am⁷ Bm⁷ Am⁶ CM⁷/_G Bm⁷/_{F#} Am⁷ Bm⁷

1. My heart was hard as i - ron. I tore in - to His
 2. I could not see my dark - ness- I'd nev - er seen the
 3. He'd claimed to be from heav - en, So we had hung Him
 4. My God, I'll nev - er grasp it- This love I long de -

Am⁶ CM⁷/_G Em⁷ Am⁶ CM⁷/_G F#m⁷/_B Em⁷ GM⁷/_D

hands. I nailed Him to my self - ish - ness And
 Light. My life was full of emp - ti - ness And
 high. In rage I slammed the ham - mer down, Then
 nied. You came in - to my dark - ened heart, And

Am⁹/_C Am⁶/_C B^{9b} B^{9b}/_A D#⁷/_{F#} B^{9b}

dreamed of loft - y plans. I'd lis - tened as He
 swol - len up with pride. I joined the loud and
 stood to watch Him die. I lis - tened for His
 now I am a - live! O how can I re -

Em⁹ Em⁹/_D GM⁷/_B Am⁶/_C Bm⁷/_D

talked a - bout A love I did not know, But
 jeer - ing crowd. I crowned Him with my shame, But
 fi - nal word- Some weak or bit - ter cry. He
 spond to You? What praise could be e - nough? Lord,

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

LITHOSTROTOS
7.6.8.6.8.6.8.6.

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Am⁷ Bm⁷ Am⁶ $\frac{CM^7}{G}$ Em⁷ Am⁷ CM⁷ B^{9b} B^{13b}

God could nev - er en - ter in The dun - geon of my
 when I saw Him dy - ing there, I knew I was to
 prayed for those tor - ment - ing Him. The name He spoke was
 make my life for - ev - er - more A grate - ful song of

1-3 Esus Em Em Esus Em 4 $\frac{Esus}{B}$ $\frac{Em}{B}$ $\frac{Em}{A}$ Am⁶ $\frac{Esus}{G}$ $\frac{Esus}{F\#}$ Em

soul.
 blame.
 mine.

love.

TOPICS: God's Love; Jesus' Suffering & Death; Lent-Easter

LEAD-IN: *God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8, NIV)*

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Crucifixion

Some early historians credited the Persians with the first use of crucifixion, while others said it was a cruel practice the Romans picked up from various barbarous peoples they had conquered. The Greeks had used it--Alexander the Great crucified 2,000 people after the siege of Tyre.

The Romans originally considered it a slave's punishment. It was later extended to foreigners and robbers and those convicted of treason.

Crucifixion was designed to subject the victim to the greatest possible humiliation. For that reason corpses were sometimes crucified.

Some form of torture customarily preceded crucifixion, such as flogging, in order to start the blood flowing. The victim often had to carry his own crossbeam to the place of execution, which was intentionally very public. He was most often tied to the cross, sometimes nailed. Stretched and immobilized, the victim could find no relief from searing pain. Movement was excruciating. Not moving was torture. The suffering was intense and protracted. Death rarely came sooner than 36 hours (thus Pilate's surprise when Jesus was dead in only a few hours--another sign that Jesus had given up His own life). The final cause of death is uncertain, but gradual suffocation resulting from fatigue is most likely.

In 1968, the first skeleton identifiable as a victim of crucifixion was unearthed in Jerusalem. The two heel bones were still fastened together by a single iron nail.