

Why Are There Three?

As I approached the city I saw a crowd gathered on a hill,
the one where the sentence of death is fulfilled.
The sounds of three men being crucified filled the air,
so naturally my curiosity began to flare.
I walked up and asked a man standing nearby,
"Who are these three and why must they die?"
The answer I got was surprising indeed,
for in it is the power to set one free.
The man turned to me with tears running down his face,
and began to explain the details of each case.

"On the left is a sinner, whom no one could sway,
for he was determined to live life his way.
A hard and callous heart that refused to take heed,
of its requirement to repent and believe.
His pride and stubbornness have led him astray,
the price of which he must now pay.
His future being worse than even this plight,
for he is guilty of rejecting Christ.
So to hell this one will soon descend,
for he is dying *in* his sin.

On the right is a sinner, who began life astray,
but came to realize the error of his ways.
A soft and receptive heart that finally took heed,
of its requirement to repent and believe.
His humility and remorse led to victory this day,
for his spiritual death is being cast away.
His present seems dim, but his future is bright,
for he is one who has accepted Christ.
So to heaven this one will soon ascend,
for he is dying *to* his sin.

In the middle is the sinless one, whom evil couldn't sway,
for He is the truth, the life, and the way.
A heart so full of love that it must burst and bleed,
to save all those who repent and believe.
His humility and grace have brought Him to this day,
for the sins of the world He has come to pay.
His death providing the sole means for eternal life,
for He is the one and only Christ.
So based on their faith to heaven or hell He sends,
for He is dying *for* their sin.

God only needed one cross to accomplish His will,
so why are there three up on this hill?
All have sinned and are deserving of spiritual death,
which is represented by the cross on the left.
But because of the unselfish sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
we now have the option of the cross on the right."
Then he asked me a question that I'll never forget,
for it had on me such a profound affect.
He said, "Each of us will be nailed to one of these two,
the question is, which one will you choose?"

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