

SERMON NOTES:

Series: Mark -The Simple Gospel | Week 52: High and Lifted Up

Mark 15:42-47 (NLT) *The Burial of Jesus*

⁴²This all happened on Friday, the day of preparation, the day before the Sabbath. As evening approached, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea **took a risk** and went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. (Joseph was an honored member of the high council, and he was waiting for the Kingdom of God to come.) ⁴⁴Pilate couldn't believe that Jesus was already dead, so he called for the Roman officer and asked if he had died yet. ⁴⁵The officer confirmed that Jesus was dead, so Pilate told Joseph he could have the body. ⁴⁶Joseph bought a long sheet of linen cloth. Then he took Jesus' body down from the cross, wrapped it in the cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been carved out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone in front of the entrance. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where Jesus' body was laid.

Matthew 27:57 (NLT)

⁵⁷As evening approached, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea **who had become a follower of Jesus**,

Luke 23:50-51 (NLT)

⁵⁰Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph. He was a member of the Jewish high council, ⁵¹but he had not agreed with the decision and actions of the other religious leaders. He was from the town of Arimathea in Judea, and he was waiting for the Kingdom of God to come.

John 19:38-39a (NLT)

³⁸Afterward Joseph of Arimathea, who had been a secret disciple of Jesus (because he feared the Jewish leaders), asked Pilate for permission to take down Jesus' body. When Pilate gave permission, Joseph came and took the body away. ³⁹With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night.

"This permission by Pilate is taken by some evidence that the governor viewed Jesus as innocent, since he is unlikely to have so quickly released the body of a dangerous insurrectionist or criminal." **Mark L Strauss**

"To identify so positively with a victim accused of both blasphemy and sedition could put him in jeopardy with his own Jewish associates as well as the Roman authorities." **Mark L Strauss**

"Joseph was treating Jesus as if he was a close member of the family, for whom it was his duty to see to burial before nightfall – as well as to fulfil the old biblical law not to let hanged corpses remain in place overnight." **N.T. Wright**

It is never too late to make things right. It's never too late to boldly embrace Jesus.

Are you waiting for the Kingdom of God?

John 12:32 (NLT)

³²And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."