

Title: Jesus the Servant: The Funeral of a King

Scripture: John 19:38-42

Date: 3-25-18

Bible Version: NIV

BOTTOM LINE: When confronted with Jesus and his death, we are challenged to change and act with courage and obedience.

The burial of Jesus is an essential part of the gospel story.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

The Apostles Creed

"I believe in Jesus Christ -- who suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried."

Vs. 38

Joseph of Arimathea- A secret disciple of Jesus. He was a wealthy and honored member of the Jewish high council (Matthew 27:57 and Mark 15:43).

He was obedient and overcame his fear and boldly went before Pilate to request the body of Jesus (Mark 15:43).

Vs. 39

Nicodemus- A Pharisee and member of the Jewish high council.

In John 3 we see Nicodemus secretly come to Jesus at night to learn more about His teachings.

Both Joseph and Nicodemus responded to the death of Jesus with courage and boldness despite the possible risks.

The removal of the bloody, dirty body of Jesus from the cross and the iron spikes that held it must have been difficult both practically and emotionally. (Guizk)

Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds- This was an extravagant and expensive purchase to honor Jesus.

Vs. 40

The Jewish custom of burial included washing the body and having it wrapped in a cloth soaked with aromatic oils and spices.

Joseph and Nicodemus personally washed and prepared Jesus body for burial.

They examined His entire body and found broken pieces of thorn all over the head. They saw His bloody, matted hair; the terrible bruising of the face, the areas of beard pulled out, the dry and cracked lips.... On the front – just beneath the rib cage – there was a gaping wound made from the spear thrust that confirmed His death. Worst of it all were the eyes that did not open; the voice that did not speak. (Guzik)

Vs. 41-42

At the place Jesus was crucified, there was a garden- The law required the burial to be completed before sunset so they needed to hurry and find a place nearby to avoid working on the Sabbath.

A new tomb- This was Joseph's own tomb, expensive and brand new, carved out of stone (Luke 23:53).

"If they buried him in an old tomb, the Jews would say that he had touched the bones of some prophet or other holy man, and so came to life." (Spurgeon) Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey that had never been ridden and now is buried in tomb in which no one has been laid. Both the donkey and tomb had been set apart for a sacred task.

The burial in a garden brings everything full circle.

"That in a sepulcher in a garden Christ's body was laid. In the garden of Eden death and the grave first received their power, and now in a garden they are conquered, disarmed, and triumphed over. In a garden Christ began his passion, and from a garden he would rise, and begin his exaltation." (Henry)

Jesus' burial is more than just a funeral, it fulfills scripture and has eternal implications.

Isaiah 53:9

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Jesus died between two thieves but was buried like royalty with extravagant spices and in a wealthy man's tomb.

Joseph from Arimathea, and Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, attend the funeral of the great Lord and Savior of men—and so pay such honor as they can to His dead body! (Spurgeon)

Joseph and Nicodemus could no longer be secret followers of Jesus but responded to his death with courage and obedience.

March 25th, 2018



BOTTOM LINE: The death and resurrection of Christ is the beginning of life for us.

- 1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
- 2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
- 3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
- 4. What is your prayer for today?



DO.

DISCUSS.

- 1. Why do you think these two men came forward at this time when it appeared that they had nothing to gain and everything to lose?
- 2. Why do you think there are so many secret followers of Christ?
- 3. What is your biggest hindrance in seeking to be fully committed to Jesus? What are ways we can boldly embrace our faith and be obedient despite our fear?
- 4. Put yourself in Joseph and Nicodemus position. What would be the most difficult part of removing and preparing Jesus body for burial?
- 5. What connections could you make between what happened in the garden of Eden and Jesus death and burial? (1 Corinthians

DO.



Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try a the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on <u>blueletterbible.com</u> or with their app.



Parents & Kids TAKEHOME

DATE: March 25th, 2018

Main Idea: Jesus Came To Show His Love Story: The Last Supper & Palm Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11, 26:17-29; John 13:1-17

- 1. When Jesus arrived to the city of Jerusalem, did he ride in a car? A train? A boat? What did he ride? (Donkey)
- 2. During Jesus' life he showed love to many people by talking with them, being kind, and healing sickness. What are some ways that we can show others that we care about them?
- 3. Jesus and his friends (the disciples) had a meal together right before he died on the cross. Do you remember what we call this meal (The Last Supper). During the meal Jesus washed the disciples feet. Why do you think He did this?
- 4. Think of something that you can do this week for one person, to show that you love and care about them.

Memory Verse: "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

