

Matthew 27

Jesus

- **Prayer in Garden:** 3x Let this pass.
- Not My will... but Yours be done

Salvation is found in the Person of Jesus Christ alone

Every religion is false/satanic/impotent and their founders are liars, thieves and blasphemers

Luke 22:44 ... being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great **drops of blood falling** down to the ground.

Betrayal in Garden/Shepherd Struck/Sheep Flee

- Illegal Jewish **trial by night... and it was night**

Matthew 26:63b... [High Priest] Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" 64 Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless... you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and **coming on the clouds of heaven.**" **66b...** They answered and said...

He is deserving of death

I. Pontius Pilate Delivered to the Gentiles

1 When **morning came,** all the chief priests and elders of the people plotted against Jesus to **put Him to death.** 2 And when they had **bound Him,** they led Him away and delivered Him to **Pontius Pilate** the governor.

- **As prophesied:** Jews deliver Jesus to the Gentiles; Romans

Matthew 20:19 [They will deliver Me...] to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify.

- **Pontius Pilate**

1. Pontius	Of the Sea	Gentile nations
2. Pilate	Armed with a spear	Authority to crucify

- Jesus delivered by Jews to Roman Governor Pilate...

John 18:3 [Parallel] Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore, the Jews said to him, "**It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,**"

Illegal for Jews to carry out Capital Punishment...Ask Pilate to Crucify Him

- **Judas looks on...**

3 Then Judas, **His betrayer,** seeing that [Jesus] had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 saying, "**I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.**" And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!"

Judas repented but not like Peter who repented, believed, and was pardoned. Judas

repented, despaired, and **was ruined**. [Henry]

- Robbery/Greed/Hatred: Culminating in Satan entering/consuming/spitting Judas out

Eulogy? Judas was a free-spirit. A rebel. Rebels against God/ways end up in hell
We feel so smart/energized/empowered as we rebel against God's goodness

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

- **Compassion of Religion:** I have sinned. **A.** What is that to us?

5 Then [Judas] threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and **hanged himself**.

- **Satan is done with Judas now:** Dumps out of on side of a cliff...
- Where is the "you go girl" satanic encouraging now? Implicit in death.

6 But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." 7 And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. 8 Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

- **Religious hypocrisy reveals itself in compromise**

1. God wants you to fall on your face before Him and repent. Forgive. Die to self
2. I think I'll do a good deed for somebody...because God esteems compromise?

Samuel 15:22 Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. 23 For **rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft**, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

9 Then was fulfilled what was **spoken by Jeremiah** the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, 10 and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me."

Matthew refers to scroll of Jeremiah, which included the **book of Zechariah** [Guzik]

Zechariah 11:12 [500 BC] ... I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages **thirty pieces of silver**. 13 And the Lord said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the **house of the Lord for the potter**.

- **30 pieces of Silver:** OT Cost to redeem a slave...
- Tree limb Judas hung himself on broke/fell down into field...

Acts 1:18 Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and **all his entrails gushed out**. 19 And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood. 20 "For it is written in the Book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, and let no one live in it.'

- **Judas finally no longer full of himself:** Off to Hades/then to Hell

Acts 1:25b... Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place

11 Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus said to him, "**It is as you say.**"

- **Delivered Jesus to Pilate, then to Herod, back to Pilate**

John 18:33 Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" 34 Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" 35 Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" 36 Jesus answered, "**My kingdom is not of this world.** If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." 37 Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that **I am a king.** For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." 38 Pilate said to Him, "**What is truth?**"

What is Truth? Truth is what God says. Period

- **Absolute Truth regarding Morality...** God is a moral God/He determines morality

1. Marriage is between one man one woman. Period.
2. There are two genders; male/female. Period.
3. Sex only in marriage: Not before/or with some else during

- **Absolute Truth regarding Origin... God is the Creator of all things**

1. God created Adam/took from him a rib to make Eve. Literally
2. God spoke the worlds into existence through Father, Son, Holy Spirit
3. Every species stays that species, after its own kind. Evolution? Great Lie

- **Absolute Truth regarding Salvation...One way to the Father**

1. We are born sinners separated from God
2. Jesus alone saves man from sin/death/hell as we trust in Him alone
3. All religion man-made and of the devil. Religion can't save...only Jesus can.

- **Absolute Truth regarding Eternity**

1. Those who trust in Jesus sacrifice for their sins alone go to heaven forever
2. Those who trust in self/man-made religion will die in sins and go to hell forever
3. God want to be with you for all of Eternity...see Matthew 27

Q. How do we know these things are true?
A. **The One who rose from the dead said so**

12 And while [Jesus] was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He **answered nothing.** 13 Then Pilate said to Him, "**Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?**" 14 But He answered him not one

word, so that the governor **marveled greatly.**

- Tried to make case Jesus was subverting Rome...

Luke 23:2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King."

- **Jesus did not defend Himself...**

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

Jesus answered not a word ...Pilate marveled greatly.

[Pilate] had seen in captured Jews the fierce courage of fanaticism; but there was no fanaticism in Christ. He had also seen in many prisoners the [determination to] do or say anything to escape from death; but he saw nothing of that about our Lord. He saw in him unusual gentleness and humility combined with majestic dignity. He beheld submission blended with innocence." [Spurgeon]

SUMMARY Pontius Pilate Delivered to Gentiles

II. Barabbas Son of the Father

15 Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude **one prisoner** whom they wished. 16 And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. 17 Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "**Whom do you want me to release** to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"

Rome released one Jewish prisoner a year at Passover to keep peace w/Jews

- **Barabbas:** Notorious; i.e. Infamous for his crimes

Mark 15:7 ... there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had committed murder in the rebellion.

- **Barabbas or Jesus called the Christ:** Pilate playing with them

18 For he knew that they had handed Him over **because of envy.**

- Handed Him over to be nailed alive to a cross...because of envy/jealousy
- **Envy/Jealousy:** 2 of the most underrated motivators of hatred in list of sins

... malice [intent to harm] originates just as much from envy as it does from anger [Clarke]

19 While [Pilate] was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I **have suffered many things today** in a dream because of Him."

Suffering today from a dream of Jesus night before?

Sometimes it takes minutes to get over a dream...this one she couldn't shake

- **Pilate should have listened:** Just drop this!

20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

- Satan persuades the religious Leaders who persuade multitude who persuade Pilate

21 The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you? [2x]" They said, "**Barabbas!**"

- **Barabbas:** Son of the Father

22 Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" **They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"**

- **They all said...Let Him be crucified?**

**Sometimes the mob is not right?
Mob is not responsible...the individuals in the mob are**

- **Barabbas heard** ...Let Him be crucified/Surprised when they came released **him**

Acts 3:14 ...you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 **and killed the Prince of life**

Barabbas knew the meaning of the cross better than most. We wonder if he ever took it to heart. [Guzik]

23 Then the governor said, "**Why, what evil has He done?**" But they cried out all the more, saying, "**Let Him be crucified!**"

- **Pilate not playing anymore.** Getting nervous especially after this interaction...

John 19:6b... Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." 7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He **made Himself the Son of God.**" 8 Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, 9 and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" 11 Jesus answered, "**You could have no power at all** against Me unless it had been given you from above..."

- Imagine a prisoner saying this leader of ruling empire?

24 When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, **he took water and washed his hands** before the multitude

Pilate did not want Caesar hearing things were out of control

- Pilate caves to fear of man...

Mark 15:15 So Pilate, **wanting to gratify the crowd...**

Pilate washed his hands again and again...but they were still not clean

- **What about us? Dirty hands? /Guilty Conscience?**

1. For the person we hated and wanted to see gone
2. For the gossip that destroyed a reputation
3. For the sexual sin that stole innocence/destroyed family
4. For the acts of malice that arose from envy/jealousy
5. For the hurt caused to so many by our selfishness
6. For the lack of gratitude to a God who sent His Son to get us to heaven...

Q. What are you going to do with your sin?

- Can't wash it away with water
- Can't wash it away with religion
- Can't wash it away with good deeds...what can wash our sins away?

...nothing but the blood of Jesus

What can make me whole again...nothing but the blood of Jesus
 O Precious is the flow that makes me white as snow
 No other fount I know...nothing but the blood of Jesus

24b... [Pilate said...] **"I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it."** 25 And all the people answered and said, **"His blood be on us and on our children."**

- They would deny this after the Resurrection...

Acts 5:28 [Same Jewish leaders to Apostles...] And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, **and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!"**

26 Then he released Barabbas to them; and **when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.**

- Released Barabbas the criminal/Punished Jesus the innocent
- Scourged to get confession that would never come: **He was innocent**

As the Roman soldiers repeatedly struck the victim's back with full force, the iron balls would cause deep contusions, and the leather thongs and sheep bones would cut into the skin and subcutaneous tissues. Then, as the flogging continued, the lacerations would tear into the underlying skeletal muscles and produce quivering ribbons of bleeding flesh. Pain and blood loss generally set the stage for circulatory shock. The extent of blood loss may well have determined how long the victim would survive the cross. [Edwards]

Isaiah 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And **by His stripes we are healed.** 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

- Jesus back ripped open to reveal heart of the Father
- Jesus back torn apart to make a way to the Father...

Hebrews 10:19 [We have...] boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, **through the veil, that is, His flesh...**

...when he had scourged Jesus, Pilate delivered Him to be crucified.

27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. 28 And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. 29 When they had **twisted a crown** of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "**Hail, King of the Jews!**" 30 Then they spat on Him, and **took the reed and struck Him on the head.**

- **Praetorium:** Place of administering justice
- Garrison around Him; i.e. 600 men

Humiliation Begins: Man's sin on full display

- **Jesus willingly allowed them to...**
 1. Stripped Him
 2. Put on Scarlet Robe
 3. Crown of Thorns pushed into skull as Jesus took the curse upon His own head

Genesis 3:18 [God's curse for man's sin] Cursed is the ground for your sake... **18** Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you. [One day the curse will be reversed]

4. Made Him hold a reed as scepter/took it and hit Him on head
 5. Mocked Him/Stripped Him again/Put clothes back on [he could not]
- **Behold the man:** Pilate had to clarify what they saw was a man

Isaiah 42:14b... His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; 15 So shall He sprinkle many nations.

- Yet the eternal plan of the Father agreed to by the Son and for us...

Revelation 13:8b... [Jesus] the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

- God the Father allowed sinful mankind to **have our way with His Son?**

Acts 4:27 [Prayer to Father...] both Herod and Pontius Pilate with the Gentiles and the people of Israel were gathered together 28 to do **whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.**

Isaiah 53:10 [Father's love for us] Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise [crush] Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin

- Allow His Son to be killed to make us sons of the Father

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

- Our sin placed upon Jesus the perfect sacrifice...

John 1:29 Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world

31 And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.

As Jesus was led away to be crucified, He was – like most victims of crucifixion – forced to carry the wood He would hang upon. The weight of the entire cross was typically 300 pounds. The victim only carried the crossbar, which weighed anywhere from 75 to 125 pounds. When the victim carried the crossbar, he was usually stripped naked, and his hands were often tied to the wood.

- Released Barabbas the Criminal/Punished Jesus the innocent
- Released _____ the sinner/rebel...and Punished Jesus the Innocent in my place

Great Exchange: Our sin for His righteousness

2 Corinthians 5:21 [Father] made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, **that we might become the righteousness of God...**

Every religion is false/satanic/impotent and their founders are liars, thieves and blasphemers
Salvation is found in the Person of Jesus Christ alone. To Him alone be the Glory!

Come [closer you] who read this chapter, come to this place of a skull. It is the first resting-place of **every weary soul**. There is no rest for the sole of your foot till first you come to Calvary, and see your Savior die. [Spurgeon]

- Judas now dead/**Peter looks on...**

III. King on a Cross

32 Now as they came out, they **found a man** of Cyrene, **Simon** by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross.

- Leave Roman Governors Headquarters for 1½ mile walk
- Jesus too weakened by scourging to continue carrying cross
 1. **Simon the Cyrene:** Lit. Rock/Stone
 2. Romans force carry Jesus cross

Simon later came to know risen Jesus...become a leader in early church
If we only know a Jesus on the Cross and not the risen Christ.... we do not know Jesus

33 And when they had come to a place called **Golgotha**, that is to say, Place of a Skull...

- **Golgotha:** Place of the Skull. AKA **Calvary**

**Ground is level at Calvary. At foot of the Cross
Doesn't matter where you're from or what you've done**

34 they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink.

- **Jesus not yet on the Cross...**
 1. Sour wine mixed w/gall [possibly myrrh]
 2. Taste/not drink...instead took the undiluted cup wrath for our sin

Someone must drink the cup of God's wrath for our sin
Will it be Jesus or You?

Psalm 75:8 ... in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the **wicked of the earth drain** and drink down.

Revelation 14:10 [Christ rejectors] shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is **poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation**. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the **presence of the Lamb...**

Torment in the presence of the Lamb...I could have taken that for you

- **Jesus:** Not allowing one drop of pain to be diluted with wine... He took it all

35 Then they **crucified Him**, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots."

When thrown on the ground to nail the hands to the crossbeam, the wounds on His back were again opened, deepened, and contaminated with dirt. With each breath attached to the upright cross, the painful wounds on the back scraped against the rough wood of the upright beam and were further aggravated

- **Then they crucified Him...**

... to the unusually sensitive soul of Jesus it must have been a great part of His shame to be stripped of every garment and hung up before the sun. [Spurgeon]

- **Excruciating:** From the Roman word "out of the cross."
- People circling cross gawking at the sight...

Psalm 22:16 ... dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; 17 I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. 18 They divide My garments among them, And for **My clothing they cast lots**.

36 **Sitting down**, they kept watch over Him there.

- Soldiers cast lots for clothing/stared at Him/thinking about being home w/family

37 And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: **THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS**.

- **Sign nailed above His head...** This is Jesus the King of the Jews

1. Ladder thrown against the cross to attach sign
2. Pounding nails into wood that he Himself was nailed to

Genesis 28:12 [Jacob's Dream] ... a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

John 1:51 [I AM that Ladder] ... hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God **ascending and descending upon the Son of Man**.

- **Jesus dying on Cross...**The only way to the Father

And so, He is, and so He shall be — King ... on that cross, and never so royal as when he had surrendered everything for love of those whom he came to redeem. [Spurgeon]

38 Then **two robbers** were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left. 39 And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads 40 and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." 41 Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, 42 "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. 43 He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

That is the devil's old doctrine: "Save Yourself; look out for yourselves; live for yourselves; be selfish." But Christ could never act like that; He came to live and die for others. "Save Yourself" was not the doctrine that he either preached or practiced. [Spurgeon]

Save yourself...If you are the Savior come down off the Cross!

Psalm 22:12 Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me. 13 They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion. 14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

Jesus mocked while dying by those He was suffering and dying for...
Tempting Jesus to deny His Father/Forsake Cross/in turn **seal their own fate in Hell**

44 Even the robbers who were crucified with Him **reviled Him** with the same thing.

- But then a miracle happened. Miracle of repentance

Luke 23:39 [Parallel] Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." 40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." 43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

- God give us Beauty for Ashes/Restoration for Repentance

Acts 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that **times of refreshing** may come from the presence of the Lord

Two thieves. Both began mocking. Both had a choice to repent. Only one did. One is experiencing the kindness of Jesus for all eternity. The other will spend eternity suffering the wrath of Jesus forever regretting that he was too proud to repent. No second chances. [NJC]

Someone must drink the cup of God's righteous wrath for our sin

Will it be Jesus or You?

SUMMARY King on a Cross

IV. Jesus Dies on the Cross

45 Now from the **sixth hour until the ninth** hour there was darkness over all the land.

Jesus hung on cross for six Hours: 9am to 3pm
Last 3 Hours...the world went dark

Luke 23:44 ... and there was darkness **over all the earth** until the ninth hour.

The sun could no longer look upon his Maker surrounded by these who mocked Him. He covered his face, and traveled on in tenfold night, in very shame that the great Sun of righteousness should himself be in such terrible darkness... The darkness is the symbol of the wrath of God which fell on those who slew his only begotten Son. God was angry, and his frown removed the light of day... [Spurgeon]

- **Entire World went dark:** Imagine looking from space? Great time to repent
- **Supernatural:** Full moon this day. Impossible to have natural eclipse

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

- 3 pm Jesus cries out...

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

[Note: Not Father]

Psalms 22:1 My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

- From eternity past Jesus had never experienced any separation from His Father
- Only sweet Holy fellowship with One another

2 Corinthians 5:21 God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- **Paraphrase:** God the Father made Jesus to be sin

On the Cross Jesus fulfilled picture of Serpent on the pole in the desert: **Gaze on and live**

John 3:14 ... as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

God must turn away from anyone who has sin upon him. So as sin was laid upon Christ, God had to turn away his face even from his well-beloved Son because he was bearing his people's sins upon the accursed tree. [Spurgeon]

2 Corinthians 5:19 God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself at the cross.

My God My God why have you forsaken Me

Yet all the time the Father's love never diminished for His Son

- The Father would answer the Son...

Psalm 22:21 Save Me from the lion's mouth And from the horns of the wild oxen! You have answered Me. 22 I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

47 Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, "This Man is calling for Elijah!" 48 Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and **offered it to Him to drink.**

John 19:28 [Parallel] After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "**I thirst!**"

Psalm 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws

49 The rest said, "**Let Him alone**; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him."

**Let Him alone...In fact Jesus the man is now completely alone
Entirely alone bearing sins of all humanity. Horror.**

Psalm 22:6 ...I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. 7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, 8 "He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

- Last Two of 7 Statement from Cross...Loud Voice. Voice called Lazarus from dead
 1. **It is finished...**
 2. **Father into Your hands I commend My Spirit**

John 10:17 Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

Hebrews 12:2 ... Jesus... who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- **It is finished:** gr. *Tetelestai*

All that is required for the Salvation of mankind is done

- **Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit. Jesus the man is dead.**

He gave up his life because He willed it, when He willed it, and as He willed it. [Augustine]

Immediately stuff starts happening...

51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was **torn** in two from top to bottom; and the **earth quaked**, and the rocks were split, 52 and the graves were

opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

Jesus Death opens the Way of Eternal Life for us

- **Temple Veil Open** Ripped by God top-bottom allowing access to Him
- **Rocks/Graves Open** Dead rise/After 3 days walking around Jerusalem

54 So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they **feared greatly**, saying, "**Truly this was the Son of God!**"

World still in darkness/Into Your Hands...!

- Felt/Saw results of Earthquake
- Heard Temple Veil was torn...**Truly this was the Son of God**

[Veil torn] It is not a slight tear through which we may see a little; but it is tear from the top to the bottom. There is an entrance made for the greatest sinners. If there had only been a small hole cut through it...the lesser offenders might have crept through; but what an act of abounding mercy is this, that the veil is torn in the midst, and torn from top to bottom, so that the chief of sinners may find ample passage! [Spurgeon]

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to **save sinners, of whom I am chief.**

Was it a great sin to nail the Son of God to Cross/Gamble at His feet for his clothes?
This Centurion was recently prayed for...

Luke 23:34 ... Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

- **Confession at Cross** Truly **this was** the Son of God
- **Confession at Resurrection** Truly **this is** the Son of God

Was it a great sin for priests to incite the crowd to scream
Crucify Jesus instead of Barabbas?

Acts 6:7 [Veil open to them?] a **great many of the priests** were obedient to the faith.

What is your great sin today?

The Veil is open to you through the death of Jesus

55 And **many women** who followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, were there looking on from afar, 56 among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

Mary Mother of James/John were there...regretting their previous request...

Matthew 20:21 Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, **one on Your right hand** and the **other on the left**, in Your kingdom.

57 Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself **had also become a disciple of Jesus**. 58 [Joseph] went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him.

- **Apostles Scatter/Secret Disciples emerge...**

John 19:38 After this, **Joseph of Arimathea**, being a disciple of Jesus, **but secretly**, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. 39 And **Nicodemus**, who at first came to **Jesus by night**, also came, bringing a mixture of **myrrh** and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40 Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.

- **Secret Disciples** Joe/Nick take body/prepare burial w/**Myrrh** a Burial Spice

Matthew 26:12 ...in pouring this **fragrant oil** on My body, she did it for **My burial**.

Matthew 2:11b... [The wise men...] presented gifts to Him: gold [Jesus the King], frankincense [Jesus the Priest], **and myrrh** [Jesus the Prophet prophesying His own death]

Gift of Christmas: Father giving Jesus...making a way for us to Him **by His death**

59 When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 and laid it in **his new tomb** which he had hewn out of the rock; and **he rolled a large stone against the door** of the tomb, and departed.

Q. If Joseph took Jesus body...**Where is Jesus?**

A. Fulfilling His promise to His new friend: **Today you will be with me in Paradise...**

- Jesus in Paradise bringing waiting Saints to Heaven. Leaving wicked in Hades
- **Body/Tent in Joseph's Exclusive Tomb:** Only needed for few days...

61 And **Mary Magdalene** was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb. 62 On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, 63 saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that **deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.'** 64 Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first."

Jesus said He would rise from the dead and He did. In fact, ten of His Apostles died because they refused to deny His resurrection. If Jesus did not rise from the dead...why would 10 men endure excruciating deaths for a lie...leaving no assurance for them of an afterlife? Because in fact, **they died for the truth**. [NJC]

1 Corinthians 15:14 ... **if Christ is not risen**, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. **20** ... now **Christ is risen** from the dead, and has become the firstfruits

of those who have fallen asleep [died].

- **Because He lives**, we will live eternally. Promise confirmed by...
 1. His Resurrection
 2. His life dwelling w/in us...

John 14:19 A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. **Because I live, you will live also.** 20 At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. **21b...** And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest [reveal] Myself to him.

65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

- **Sealed w/Stone...Set w/Guard:** Pretty heavy precautions for a dead person