

The Gospel of John
What Happened at the Cross? John 19:17-42

Intro: What happened at the cross makes Jesus' crucifixion radically different than any other crucifixion.

I. The King Was _____ – 19:17-24

The Placard – Not accusation, but _____.

Cf. John 3:14-18 – Pilate nailed a placard on the cross, but the Father permitted His Son to be nailed on the cross.

II. The Son Was _____ – 19:25-27

Jesus, while on the cross was fulfilling the law towards his mother and towards a sinner – Micah 6:8

How do you do in the showing of mercy, extending kindness and to others who are sinners, even if they have sinned against you?

III. The Payment was _____ – 19:30

The phrase, "It is finished!" means "_____ in full."

What happened at the cross was not an accident!

Not only was the payment perfect, but God's _____ was being perfectly accomplished (See Revelation 5:6).

IV. The Lamb was _____ – 19:31-37

A. The Day was _____ – 19:31

B. Jesus' Bones were _____ – 19:33, 36

C. Jesus' Side was _____ – 19:34

D. Jesus' Death was _____ – 19:33, 38, 39, 42

Conclusion: Death brings questions, like those based on "what happened at the cross?" God's plan? How could this happen? What now? What will life be like without Jesus?

Because Jesus rose again, we know better what happened at the cross. We also know that we do not have to live life without Jesus or live without hope in this life.

Have you made the decision not to live without Jesus in your life?

Small Group Study Questions

Develop

1. Do you think most people fully understand crucifixion and what happened when Jesus was crucified? Why or why not?

Dig

1. What is significant about the place where Jesus was crucified? See Genesis 22:2, 8; 2 Chronicles 3:1.

2. Why did Pilate put “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews” on the placard? Was this an accusation or an affirmation?

3. In what ways did Jesus show mercy while on the cross? How can we live out the practical application of Micah 6:8 in our lives?

4. When Jesus cried out “It is finished,” what did he mean? What was Jesus saying he accomplished?

5. Read John 19:31-42 and discuss these questions.

- What was significant about the day of Jesus’ crucifixion?
- Why was it important for Jesus’ legs not to be broken?
- Why did John say that blood and water flowed from Jesus’ side?
- What details confirmed Jesus’ death? Why are they important?

6. How can answering the question, “what happened at the cross?” help you or others answer questions in difficult times and/or provide hope?

Do

1. What is a key truth that you learned from this study that you want to apply to your daily life?