



John 19:31-42

John 19:17-37, Carrying the cross by himself, he went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, Golgotha).¹⁸ There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them...²⁹ A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.³⁰ When Jesus had tasted it, he said, “It is finished!**” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.³¹ It was the day of preparation, and the Jewish leaders didn’t want the bodies hanging there the next day, which was the Sabbath (and a very special Sabbath, because it was Passover week). So they asked Pilate to hasten their deaths by ordering that their legs be broken. Then their bodies could be taken down.³² So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men crucified with Jesus.³³ But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn’t break his legs.³⁴ One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out.³⁵ (This report is from an eyewitness giving an accurate account. He speaks the truth so that you also may**

continue to believe.)³⁶ These things happened in fulfillment of the Scriptures that say, “Not one of his bones will be broken,”³⁷ and “They will look on the one they pierced.” **PRAY**

Isaiah 53:9, His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet he was with a rich man in his death, because he had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in his mouth.

Luke 23:50-53, Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph. He was a member of the Jewish high council,⁵¹ but 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.⁵² He went to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body.⁵³ Then he took the body down from the cross and wrapped it in a long sheet of linen cloth and laid it in a new tomb that had been carved out of rock.

John 19:38-41, Afterward 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.³⁹ With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night. He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes.⁴⁰ Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus’ body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth.⁴¹ The place of

crucifixion was near a garden, where there was a new tomb, never used before

I. Consider the reluctant followers.

A. Joseph of Aramathea

1. Lied about Jesus. [MT 26:59](#)

Matthew 26:59, Inside, the leading priests and the entire high council were trying to find witnesses who would lie about Jesus, so they could put him to death.

2. Mocked Jesus. [MT 26:67](#)

Matthew 26:67, Then they began to spit in Jesus' face and beat him with their fists. And some slapped him,

3. Preoccupied with position. [Mark 15:43a](#)

Mark 15:43, Joseph 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.)

B. Nicodemus

1. His standing. [John 3:1](#)

2. His Sincerity. [John 3:2](#)

John 3:2, this man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do the signs that you do unless God is with him."

II. Consider the Radical Followers of Jesus. [John 19:38-42](#)

A. Eradicated Sinful Pride

B. Ended Social Standing

C. Embraced the Savior

D. Elicited Slander

E. Enshrined in Scripture

F. Encouraged the Saints

G. Eternally Secure

APPLY GOD'S TRUTH:

1. Are you ashamed of Christ? Romans
1:16
2. How can you come out of the closet and
be more bold for Christ?