

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
In The Tomb
John 19:31-42
Week 32 August 30, 2026
Pastor Mike Popovich

Jesus is on the cross and He has given up His Spirit.

DAY OF PREPERATION

The Passover, the trip to Gethsemane, the arrest and five trials, and the crucifixion all took place between 6 pm Thursday and 6 pm Friday, the Day of Preparation.

Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away.

John 19:31 ESV

JESUS IS DEAD

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. 47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" 48 And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. 49 And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Luke 23:44-49 ESV

Jesus has just proclaimed it is finished and given up His Spirit.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.

John 19:32-34 ESV

In death the blood separates and the clear serum resembles water.

JOHN'S TESTIMONY

He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.

John 19:35 ESV

This is John telling us he watched Jesus die on the cross.

PROPHECY FULFILLED

For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced." John 19:36-37 ESV

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God.

Isaiah 61:1-2 ESV

Jesus knew that to proclaim liberty to the captives He would need to be the Passover lamb who dies for the sins of the nations.

Here was God in human form explaining Himself to them and they did not get it.

BURIAL OF THE BODY

So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. John 19:40 ESV

Joseph and Nicodemus risked their lives to take care of the body of Jesus.

Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. Matthew 27:65-66 ESV

Jesus is in the tomb.

It is Friday, but Sunday is coming.