

CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

*Matthew 26:47—27:66; Mark 14:43—15:47;
Luke 22:47—23:56; John 18:1—19:42*



BIBLE VERSE COMMITTING TO MEMORY

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.



February 5, 2012



STORY LESSON BIBLE STORY

Most people know this story. And yet it is always good to tell it again and again. For in retelling the story of the death of Jesus, we keep in mind the sacrifice and love He displayed for His chosen people Israel (in spite of themselves) and His love for the world.

Judas' Betrayal and the Trials of Jesus

Judas, the betrayer, approached Jesus and kissed Him as a signal to the armed crowd. The chief priests, teachers of the law, and the elders took Jesus into custody. Jesus was then led to around six different trials: once before the Sanhedrin, a couple times before Pilate (the Roman governor), one before Herod, and a couple before the high priests. During these trials Jesus is spat upon, scourged on his back, beat up, punched in the face, and had his clothes ripped from him and gambled for.



Peter's Denial

Meanwhile, Peter denies Jesus three times (just like Jesus had told Peter prior to it

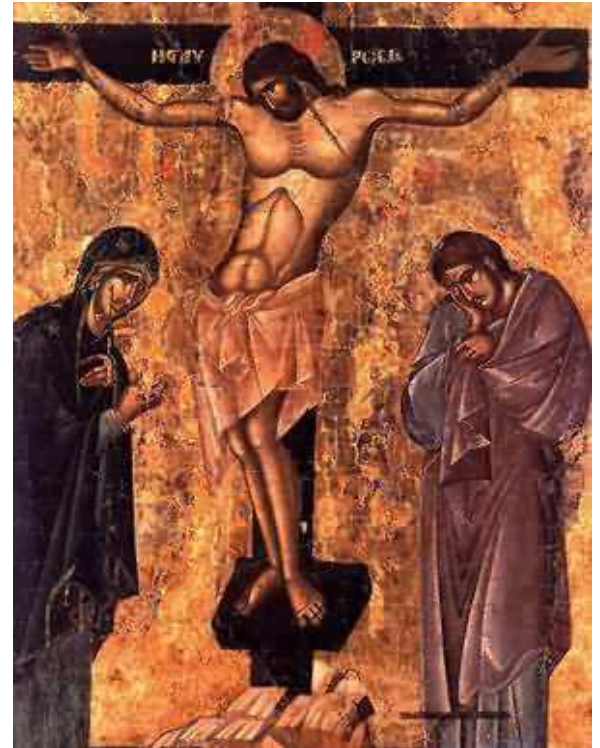


happening), the rooster crows, and he realizes what he has done.

Judas has second thoughts for betraying Jesus (after the fact) and tries to return the money to the chief priests and the elders, but since it was blood money they did not want it back. "So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself" (Matthew 27:5).

Jesus Before Pilate

Pilate didn't want to have Jesus killed because he had found no charge against him, but he handed Jesus over to the mob because he did not want a riot on his hands. Pilate washed his hands of the responsibility of this innocent man's death. So the governor's soldiers took Jesus, beat him up some more, put a scarlet robe on him, twisted a crown of thorns on his head, gave him a staff, and knelt before him hailing him as the King of the Jews. They mocked him and then beat him with the staff that he was holding.



Crucifixion of Jesus

Jesus was then led to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of the skull) and there he was crucified between two thieves. He was insulted on the cross—by those on the ground and by one of the thieves on the cross next to him. The people mocked him and derided him. Six hours and then Jesus died. Normally death by crucifixion takes a while. However, in Jesus' case, his crucifixion only took six hours. Typically those crucified would get their legs broken so they would die quicker, because to be crucified means to die by suffocation.



Burial of Jesus

After Jesus died, Joseph of Arimathea, a disciple of Jesus, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised Jesus was already dead and granted Joseph's request. "Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb" (Matthew 27:59-61). A couple of Roman guards were stationed

at the entrance of the tomb for protection against anyone stealing the body.



And so Jesus died on a cross, bearing the sins of Israel—doing for Israel what she could not do for herself—thus bearing the sins of the whole world. Jesus is the once-for-all sacrifice, atonement for our moral depravity. He cleansed us and washed us with pure water.

Those who choose to be a part of God's covenanted people by believing in Jesus, are saved. They are set apart for eternal life, life in His name.

Wrap your mind around God letting himself be killed for a fallen creation who have repeatedly spurned His undying and faithful love.

What kind of a God would do such a thing?

An unbelievably gracious and loving God.



LIFE APPLICATION

MAKING IT REAL

Believe and Be Saved

To make the death of Jesus REAL is to believe. Not just believe that it happened, but believe that Jesus took OUR penalty for OUR sin and paid it with a PERFECT life thus ransoming us from ourselves. Thank you GOD! Believe that Jesus died for YOU, took YOUR place, and redeemed you from life apart from God. Those who believe are saved—saved from their old way of life and baptized into a new way of life, the kingdom of God. Do you believe in Jesus? Have you asked Jesus into your heart? Do you know who the king is on the throne of your heart? This is the Gospel.



QUESTIONS

REMEMBERING

- 1. Who betrayed Jesus?** Judas
- 2. About how many trials did Jesus have to go through?** Around six
- 3. Who was the Roman governor who washed his hands of Jesus and sent him to be crucified?** Pontius Pilate
- 4. How did Jesus die?** On a cross
- 5. Who did Jesus die for?** Israel, thus the whole world
- 6. What did they put on Jesus' head?** A crown of thorns
- 7. Who was crucified next to Jesus?** Two thieves
- 8. How long did it take Jesus to die?** Six hours
- 9. Who asked for the body of Jesus in order to bury it in a tomb?** Joseph of Arimethea
- 10. Where did they lay the body of Jesus?** In a tomb
- 11. Did Jesus die willingly? Yes. Why?**
- 12. Do you believe in Jesus?**



COLORING SHEET

ON THE NEXT PAGE



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