

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ The Christ is Crucified

Last time...Jesus appeared before Pontius Pilate for the 2nd time
Pilate rationally and legally, and then desperately, attempted to release Jesus
The Jewish mob, stirred by the chief priests, called for a murderer to be released and
Jesus to be crucified
When their will was resisted by Pilate, the Jews played political hard ball...
and Pilate caved
Jesus was scourged, “crowned”, and mocked by the Roman soldiers

This time...Jesus, The Christ, is crucified

How did we get here, how did Israel get to this point?

The Big Picture: Acts 7 regarding Jesus Christ and the shadows of Joseph and Moses –
Israel “missed” the first time in all 3 cases

God created a nation unto Himself, thru whom He would reveal Himself to all mankind;
Israel, His witnesses to the nations
The history of Israel is dominated by unbelief...not believing what God said

They were created in Egypt...centuries of great oppression and rebellion (idol worship)
Moses
Joshua

Judges...centuries of every one doing what was right in their own eyes
Kings and a Divided Kingdom...centuries of rebellion, with periods of revival
Times of the Gentiles...centuries of oppression by 4 kingdoms of man
A great Messianic hope...a king to restore the kingdom to Israel
The arrival of the Messiah

The Christ was rejected...because the Jews did not believe what God said (Is 53:1-2)

They will not have this Man rule over them

He is falsely and illegally declared guilty of blasphemy...by blasphemers

The leaders of the Jews are moved with envy...the poison of Satan

(Acts 13:45, Acts 17:5)

Acts 13:27-28 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they
knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read
every sabbath day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*.
And though they found no cause of death *in him*, yet desired they
Pilate that he should be slain.

Now, the Christ is crucified

I take the Word of God personally

I am going to speak personally, I encourage you to hear personally

John 19

v16-18 And they took Jesus and led Him away:

Standing “trial” before Pontius Pilate, Jesus was in the Antonia Fortress

Jerusalem was protected by valleys on the east, south, and west

Jerusalem...on Mount Moriah, which rose in elevation from south to north...

was vulnerable to the north...

the direction from where Neb/the Babylonians and every other attacking

army came

Herod the Great built the Antonia Fortress to protect the vulnerable north

When they left Antonia Fortress, the scourged Jesus carried His Cross;

the Romans forced the condemned to carry his own instrument of death

Fulfilling Gen 22:1-14, same mountain (Moriah), near the highest point

Golgotha:

The Roman soldiers led Jesus out of the Antonia Fortress out the Damascus Gate,
the northern gate, to the highest point on Mount Moriah

- outside the city walls, fulfilling

Is 53:10a Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put
him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an
offering for sin

Ex 29:14 the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung,
shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it *is* a sin
offering.

Heb 13:11-12 For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is
brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin,
are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also,
that he might sanctify the people with his own
blood, suffered without the gate.

- at a busy intersection for this horror to have its greatest effect/deterrent
(outside Damascus Gate on the busy trade route to Damascus)
- no doubt very near the altar set up by Abraham in Gen 22

[Antonia Fortress 1]

[Antonia Fortress 2]

[Antonia Fortress 3]

[To Calvary]

[Golgotha]

They crucified Him:

The Roman form of execution of violent criminals and notorious rebels was

- public...for as many eyes to see as possible
- horrific...to dissuade would-be criminals
- not allowed to be done to a Roman citizen (because so horrific)

A cross was made of rough, unhewn timbers and then laid on the ground

The condemned...a scourged Jesus in this case...was

- laid down on the timbers
- nailed with 9 inch nails to the cross, hands and feet

The cross and condemned were lifted up...and bone-jarringly dropped into a hole

The weight of the condemned was upon his nailed hands and feet

Death was

- slow and excruciating (whose root is “crucifixion”)
- usually due to suffocation (hands and feet unable to bear the weight)

On this Passover, 3 men were condemned and crucified

Jesus in the center, criminals on both sides, “surrounded by sinners”

Jesus Christ is the very center of

- God’s Plan of Redemption
- the churches (Rev 1:10-20)

In Matthew’s and Mark’s accounts, we get additional details not recorded in John 19 we looked at last week

Matt 27

v27-31 the common hall...stripped...reed...spit...led him away:

After Jesus was scourged, Pilate’s soldiers took their condemned prisoner into the common hall, the place of their “board game” where they made sport of the condemned, a place large enough for hundreds of soldiers to join in

The soldiers put a purple/crimson robe on Jesus,

Is 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD:
though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as
snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as
wool.

Ex 39:1 And of the blue, and purple, and scarlet, they made cloths
of service, to do service in the holy *place*, and made the
holy garments for Aaron; as the LORD commanded
Moses.

After they first stripped Jesus naked...

- as Joseph was stripped of his coat by his envious brothers
- further humiliation endured for my sin

The robe would stick to His “raw, tenderized meat” of His back
All the while, Jesus the Lamb of God is silent, fulfilling
Is 53:7 as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his
mouth.

Shearers take off the coat of a sheep

The crown of thorns was because of me and my sin
Gal 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being
made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one
that hangeth on a tree:

He was mocked as King of the Jews, including a reed/stalk to be His scepter
Note: When Jesus returns as King of kings, He will rule with a scepter
that is a...rod of iron

Then the soldiers gave him false honor and homage, fulfilling
Is 45:22-24 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I *am* God, and *there is* none else. I have sworn by
myself, the word is gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness,
and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear. Surely, shall *one* say, in the
LORD have I righteousness and strength: *even* to him shall
men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be
ashamed.

These soldiers will be ashamed when they shall get another opportunity to
bend their knees before Jesus
Phil 2:5-11

Then they spit on Him...a profound insult and disrespect...because of my sin
Fulfilling Is 50:6 I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

Then they further degraded the King of the universe by snatching back the reed
and hitting Him with it

When their little game was over, they

- reclaimed their game prop, the robe...and most assuredly not gently
- put His own clothes/cloak on Him...certainly not carefully
- paraded Him to be crucified

Jesus is led away to be crucified
to the cross of Barabbas, “son of the father” (me, Gen 1:26-27)
to my cross, for my sin is no better than Barabbas’

Having sanctified Himself, Jesus is not resisting at any point.
Jesus is like a lamb being led to the slaughter

Is 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not
his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter
1 Peter 2:23 when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered,
he threatened not; but committed *himself* to him that
judgeth righteously
(He sanctified Himself for me)

After about 2000 years, the Jews and the Gentiles will see the Resurrection and
the Life...and the Jews will mourn Him like one mourns for his only son
(fulfilling Zech 12:10)

v32 as they came out...Simon...compelled:

Jesus initially carried His cross

But at some unrecorded place between the common hall in Antonia Fortress and
Golgotha, going up in elevation, He was

- struggling to carry it any further, given the scourging and beating and subsequent blood loss
- moving too slowly for His enemies

Along the route was a man named Simon of Cyrene, who was compelled/forced
to carry Jesus' Cross the rest of the way to Golgotha

Cyrene: A large and important city in the district of Upper Libya on the
north coast of Africa, west of Egypt.

compelled: If a Roman soldier put his sword on the shoulder of a citizen
of a conquered nation, that person was required to do whatever was
asked of him...or deal with the business end of the sword

Not a choice, forced service

Jesus taught Matt 5:41 in Roman-occupied Israel

v33-34 vinegar...gall...would not drink:

Given the degree of His blood loss, dehydration was an issue

Given the severity of His mistreatment, pain was a real issue

Jesus was offered a drink – sour wine mixed with a bitter tasting pain killer

A token of mercy offered by the Roman Empire

When He tasted the drink, He refused it

- Fulfilling
 - Ps 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.
 - Ps 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink
- Not dulling any of the pain caused by my sin
- Not side-stepping any of the suffering due to my sin
- Not diluting the cup of the Father's wrath for my sin, accepting no mercy for my offences

v35-36 crucified...parted...fulfilled:

Then Jesus' garments were removed...denuded, publicly humiliated for my sin
He was crucified...for my sin

In the last hours of His ministry, Jesus was:

1. scourged
2. stripped
3. crowned with thorns
4. mocked
5. spit on/insulted
6. beat with a reed
7. crucified

He bore the complete burden of guilt and punishment for my sin

His garments became the object of the soldiers' gambling

The Roman soldiers would have NO idea they were fulfilling
Hebrew Scriptures

Ps 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Note: Who is the prophet? David
David is a Prophet King

When the process was complete, 4 soldiers were stationed to watch...
one innocent man and 2 guilty men die slow, excruciating, tormented deaths

Mark's account reads very much like Matthew's
We will look at the additional information provided thru Mark

Mark 15

v16-21 called Praetorium...father of Alexander and Rufus:

The common hall in Antonia Fortress, used by the Roman soldiers to play with condemned prisoners, was called the Praetorium

Simon was the father of Alexander and Rufus

Remember, this Gospel was recorded in the early 60s...

30 years after the events and 30 years after the birth of the Church

Rufus could be the one mentioned in Rom 16:13...

“Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.”

v22-23 wine mingled with myrrh:

The drink Jesus was offered was a mixture of sour wine and myrrh,
an anesthetic, a narcotic mixture more aromatic than gall to relieve pain

Was the pain killer gall (Matt) or myrrh (Mark)?

Both are true, both pain killers were mixed with the sour wine

v24-25 the third hour:

The timestamp of the Crucifixion...a contradiction in Scriptures?

- the third hour...9am?
- about the sixth hour...noon (John 19:14)?

I was not correct in what I said last week

Times in the Gospel of John, written to the Church and about 25 years after the
destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and the scattering of the Jews,
are Roman times (the day is midnight to midnight)

Times in the Gospel of Mark, written before the destruction of Jerusalem and the
Temple and the scattering of the Jews,
are Jewish times (the day is sundown to sundown)

In John, the timestamp of the 2nd trial before Pilate is “the preparation of the
Passover, about the sixth hour” (Roman)...6am

In Mark, Jesus’ crucifixion was “the third hour” (Jewish)...9am

Luke 23

v26-31 a great company...women...weep not...weep:

Simon of Cyrene carries the cross “after” Jesus

- in time...after Jesus had carried it
- in space...following Jesus

As the Sheep is being led to the slaughter, a large throng of people are following
“the parade” of Jesus to be crucified

They are mourning as they “take in” what has become of Jesus of Nazareth

Jesus, the Lamb of God who has been silent, now speaks to the women

Weep not for Me...I sanctified Myself (John 17:19, Matt 26:39),
I AM the Lamb of God Who has come to take away the sins of the
world, it is for this purpose I have come into the world

John 9:39 And Jesus said, **For judgment I am come into this
world, that they which see not might see; and that
they which see might be made blind**

Weep for yourselves and for your children...I’m leaving but you are
staying, governed by the children of the devil
I wept at the beginning of the week (Luke 19:41-44),
you will weep much longer

For, behold, the days come...Jesus is The Prophet King

Blessed are the barren...no longer a “curse” to be barren, being barren will
be a blessing

Because utter destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple,
the slaughter of millions in Jerusalem, and the scattering of
the rest of the nation is coming (70 AD)

Just as I said a few days ago to My disciples (Matt 24:1-2)

say to the mountains, Fall on us...after I leave AND before I return
(Rev 5:1-7, Rev 6:12-17)

If they do these things (what you see they have done to Me),
imagine what they will do to you!

green tree: living, tree of Life, Jesus

Ps 1:1-3 Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

dry: spiritually dead tree, the nation

v32-33 Calvary:

In the other 3 Gospels, the place of crucifixion was called in the Hebrew,
Golgotha

In Luke, written to the Gentiles/Romans, it is Calvary
(Latin for “skull” or “cranium”)

Jesus has one sinner on the left and one sinner on the right;
I wonder if this was in His mind in Matt 20:20-23a

v34 Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do:
The 1st of 7 sayings of Jesus Christ from the Cross

Fulfilling:

Gen 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive.

Echoes forthcoming:

Acts 7:59-60 they stoned Stephen, calling upon *God*, and saying Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

2 Tim 4:16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge

Philemon 10-19

These words of the crucified Christ are the ultimate revelation of forgiving love!
For me!

I cried,

Ps 25:11 For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine
iniquity; for it *is* great.

The Lord heard my cry

Therefore,

1. which is greater – God's love for me, a sinner, or my sin?
2. I will judge no one and forgive everyone!!!

Application: Communion

Meditate on the depth of meaning in the elements, given to help us remember

I have been forgiven

I am going to walk, live according to, the forgiveness of God – grace

As freely as you have received, freely give...the grace and forgiveness of God

If you have any “unfinished business”, take care of it right now, then come forward to partake of
the elements

Holding the elements, meditate on how

- greatly you have been forgiven
- profoundly you are loved!

I will not “lead” a corporate remembrance, this is a time strictly between you and the Risen Lord