

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

The Christ is Buried

[Egypt Update]

Pics Prayer/Ministry house

Pics plumbing finished

EF Application and ministry in summer

Last time...the cries of the crucified Christ

1. of unimaginable agony
My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
2. of victory
It is finished
3. of peace and communion with the Father
Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit

Timestamp: the afternoon hours between noon and 3pm
Jesus was on the cross for 6 hours

This time...the Christ is buried

Timestamp: the evening hours between 3pm and 6pm

John 19

v31 the preparation...not remain upon the cross...legs might be broken:
Jesus gave up the ghost at 3pm, fulfilling the prophetic nature of Passover

Elsewhere, Jewish people were finishing their preparations for Passover

- their lamb must be slain
- the lamb must be roasted with fire
- the lamb must be eaten

before 6pm, the coming of night

The Pharisees, scribes, Sadducees, and elders who have been watching Jesus' crucifixion have things to do

So they..."the Jews" in the Gospel of John...requested Pilate to expedite the deaths of these 3 men by breaking their legs

After all, these lawbreakers do not want to break the Law (!!!)

Deut 21:22-23 And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged *is* accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance.

Ex 12:16 And in the first day *there shall be* an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save *that* which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.

The 1st and last days of Passover/Unleavened Bread...

Prophetic in their very nature

1 Cor 5:7 Christ our Passover sacrificed for us

2 Cor 5:21 made to be sin for us

1 Peter 1:19 lamb without blemish or spot

are Sabbath days, whether or not they fall on a Saturday

i.e. "high Sabbaths"

Ex 20:8-11 Table 1: keep it holy, do no work

They are no different than modern day politicians – dripping in hypocrisy
The leaven of the Pharisees is hypocrisy

The duration of time it took for a crucified person to die varied
from person to person

As short of several hours (old, unhealthy, almost dead anyway),

As long as 4 days (young, healthy)

Note: Jesus was young and healthy...carpenter, been walking for
3½ years

Death on a Roman cross came by exhaustion (hopelessness) and
suffocation (panic) when the condemned could no longer boost himself up
to breathe

The Jews asked Pilate to break their legs, so they could not boost themselves up,
in order to hasten their deaths so they could take them down, bury them,
and be done with all this before 6pm to not violate the Sabbath

btw...the Romans did not bury those who were crucified

They left the bodies on the cross to rot and to be Vulture Chow

To heighten the horror for maximum deterrence to opposing them

v32 brake the leg...first...other:

Pilate granted the request of the Jews and his soldiers broke the legs

- using a large hammer or an iron club (ever had your shins whacked?!)
- of the two thieves
 - on the left and right of Jesus, Who was in the midst
 - were still alive

Death would come quickly

After which, what will one of the thieves hear?

“Welcome to Paradise, My son.”

v33-34 Jesus ...dead already...spear pierced His side:

The soldiers now turn their attention to Jesus and find that He is already dead

What does the record of God say about Jesus?

He was dead...He had not swooned, but had died on the cross

He had laid down His life, just as He said He would (John 10:17-18)

So the soldiers, absolutely ignorant of the Word of God, did not bother
breaking Jesus' legs – there would be no point

Instead, one of the Roman soldiers checked to make sure Jesus was dead by
piercing His side (between ribs)

The soldier did not use a battle spear, which was a heavy weapon

He used a lance, a light slender spear, used by the Romans after a battle to
determine if enemy casualties were either merely wounded
or playing dead

Was Jesus playing dead? No

From the wound in His side came forth blood and water

- the fluids around the heart and lungs
- due to a ruptured heart...a broken heart

The physiology

Hypovolemic shock, a term that refers to low blood volume.

A person as badly beaten as was Jesus would lose so much blood he would
go into shock

As Jesus carried His own cross to Golgotha, He collapsed, and a man
named Simon was forced to carry the cross to Calvary

This collapse indicates Jesus had low blood pressure.

Another indicator that Jesus suffered from hypovolemic shock was that He
declared He was thirsty as He hung on the cross, indicating His
body's desire to replenish fluids.

Hypovolemic shock also causes fluid to gather in the sack around the heart and around the lungs

The spear through Jesus' side (probably His right side, piercing both the lungs and the heart) resulted in blood and water came from His side

Jesus' heart was pierced...more than we will ever know

Thus...

- Jesus was truly dead on the Cross
- from His death come life (blood and water are birth fluids)

Note: our next study – the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

v35 he that saw...his record...know...believe:

Who is "he" that saw?

The only "friendlies" watching Jesus suffer and die on the cross were women... and the Apostle John

John bears record/testimony of v31-34 –

Jesus the Lamb of God, the promised Messiah/Christ, died on the cross

1 John 5:6-9

An Epistle inspired and recorded to combat the growth of Gnosticism infecting the early Church, whereby numerous heresies were introduced into church doctrine, including

- denial of the deity of Jesus Christ
- denial that Jesus died on the Cross...rather passed out (swooned" from pain, fatigue, stress, and/or shock

John's record/testimony is true

John knows Jesus died on the cross and bears testimony that we would know and believe (a very "John"-ish statement)

v36-37 fulfilled...bone...pierced:

The Biblically ignorant Roman soldiers did not break Jesus' legs but did pierce His side...just as Scripture had foretold

Ex 12:46 neither shall ye break a bone thereof

Num 9:12 shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it

Ps 34:20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken

Zech 12:10a I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced...

“pierced” (side) = stabbed

“pierced” in Ps 22:16 (hands and feet) = violently

Who is in control of these events?

Man? Satan?

The Lord God Almighty

v38-40 Joseph of Arimathaea...Nicodemus:

Who tended to the burial of the body of Jesus?

Men (physical strength), “friendlies” now entering into God’s record

1. Joseph of Arimathaea

- secret, fearful disciple of Jesus (John 12:42-43)
- had access to Pilate and used it

2. Nicodemus

- came to Jesus at night over 2 years previously (John 3:1-21)
 - “know you are a teacher come from God”
 - “miracles...God be with him”
 - Must be born-again of the Spirit to enter the kingdom of God
 - The Son of Man must be lifted up
 - For God so loved the world...
 - God sent not His Son into the world to condemn but...
- shamed/shouted down/peer pressured 6 mos earlier at Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:43-53)
- brought the mixture of spices for burial...about 100 pounds
It was customary to bury the dead with ½ their body weight of spices;
Jesus was NOT a scrawny wimp

These two secret disciples

- took Jesus’ body off the cross...a bloody mess
- “spiced” the body...the initial burial preparation
- wrapped the body in linen clothes (vs swaddling clothes by Mary 33½ years previously)

v41-42 a garden...new sepulcher:

Important burial details

- a nearby (running out of time!) garden...
 - Adam died in a garden, the 2nd Adam is buried in a garden
 - the problem that started in one garden is laid to rest in another garden
- a new never-before-used sepulcher...
 - a virgin tomb for the One carried in a virgin womb
 - none preceded Jesus, none followed in that tomb
 - (but Monica and I and others have been in it!!!)

Mark 15

v42 the preparation:

Again, we are in the time period of 3pm to 6pm

Everything must be “all buttoned up” before 6pm to not break the Law (Sabbath)

v43-45 Joseph...Pilate:

More details about Joseph of Arimathaea

- an honorable counsellor...a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin (Council of 70 elders/judges)
- waited for the kingdom of God...as preached by its King, Jesus (must be born again of the Spirit, SoM), a disciple of Jesus
- went in boldly to Pilate...not secretly now, no fear any more
- to crave/beg for the body of Jesus

Pilate's response to one of the Sanhedrin's begging for the body of Jesus

- marvel/wonder
 - it had only been 6 hours
 - Jesus was young and healthy, it should take days for Him to die
- verify
 - summon from Calvary to the Praetorium the centurion overseeing the 4 Roman soldiers watching the 3 crucified men
 - heard the 7 saying of Jesus on the cross
 - witnessed
 - v37-39a
 - Matt 27:51, 54...earth quake, rocks split
 - testified
 - v39b
 - to Pilate that Jesus was dead
- grant the request of Joseph

v46 fine linen...hewn out of stone...rolled a stone:

Additional burial details

- bought fine linen..."bleached" linen, white, virgin linen
- took Him down...would be witnessed by "friendlies" and "hostiles" at Calvary
- sepulcher was hewn (chiseled by hand) out of a rock...an expensive proposition
- the door of the tomb was "sealed" by a stone

v47 beheld where He was laid:

Mary Magdalene and Mary the wife of Cleophas followed Joseph
(and Nicodemus) to the tomb

They were eyewitnesses of the burial process (how) and the burial (where)

Matt 27

v57 a rich man:

Additional info about Joseph of Arimathaea – he was a rich man

v58-60 clean linen...his own new tomb...a great stone:

Additional burial details

- clean/pure bleached linen...unused, virgin linen (bought, Mark 15:46)
- tomb...the expensive, new/unused tomb hewn out of the rock belongs to Joseph (a rich man)
- great stone...the tomb was "sealed" with a "great" stone
- Joseph (and Nicodemus) finished their burial chore before 6pm

Fulfilling Scripture

Is 53:9 he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.

v61 Mary...Mary:

Mary Magdalene and Mary the wife of Cleophas were watching the burial of Jesus very carefully

These women are there until the very end;

they will be there at the New Beginning...faithfulness rewarded

Luke 23

v50-51 good man, and a just...not consented:

More info about Joseph of Arimathea:

- a good, just, righteous man...by faith (Gen 15:6, Hab 2:4)
- had (silently) opposed Caiaphas' railroad job of Jesus
- his hometown is a Judean town NW of Jerusalem

v52-56 prepared...rested:

Additional burial details:

The women...Mary Magdalene and Mary the wife of Cleophas...
witnessed everything about Jesus' burial.

They too, as Joseph and Nicodemus, departed the tomb before 6pm

But until 6pm, Mary and Mary were preparing additional burial spices and
ointments for the body of Jesus.

They will return to the tomb after the Sabbath to finish the job properly
that was done hastily on this day by Joseph and Nicodemus

At 6pm, they rested from their labors, in keeping with the Law

Meanwhile..."hostiles" also witnessed 2 of their own...

- Joseph of Arimathea: Sanhedrin, elder, ruler
- Nicodemus: Pharisee, Sanhedrin, ruler

take down the body of Jesus and bury it in Joseph's tomb...and

Matt 27

v62-63 the next day...chief priests and Pharisees...unto Pilate:

The chief priests (Sadducees, Annas, Caiaphas) and the Pharisees are worried,
having witnessed two of their own take down the body of Jesus
They've been thinking and taking counsel again

So, the next day...a Sabbath day...they get back to work; violating the Sabbath
They convene again before Pilate with a demand

Sir...a term of great respect, for one they despise

Hypocrisy and thinly veiled contempt

we remember...which means they heard and understood what Jesus was saying
that that deceiver said...they believed Jesus was the son of Lucifer, not the Son of
God

while He was yet alive...Jesus' enemies testify: He died on the cross

After three days I will rise again...they understood (and remembered) what Jesus
said to them 2 years previously in Matt 12:34-41

v64 Command...lest His disciples come by night...last error:

Their demand of Pilate: set Roman soldiers to secure the tomb where Jesus was laid, to prevent Jesus' disciples from returning at night to steal the body and pointing to an empty tomb as evidence that Jesus did rise on the 3rd day

They heard and understood what Jesus foretold regarding His resurrection (the sign they demanded of Him), but they did not believe it.

They are worried that the "last error/fraud" (resurrection of Jesus) would do them greater damage than the "first error/fraud" (Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God)

These children of the devil (John 6:44) are conspiring in advance of "He is risen!" to deny the empty tomb

v65 Ye have a watch, go your way:

Just 24 hours ago, these Jews bullied Pilate, manipulating and played him like a fiddle.

Pilate is in no frame of mind to cooperate with them any more

Besides, on this very volatile Jewish feast, his resources are stretched thin

So he sends the Jews away to secure the tomb with their own soldiers, the Temple "police"

Note: At this point, Pilate "fades" from God's record

Pilate was later banished by Rome to Vienna, where he eventually committed suicide (John Foxe, *Book of Martyrs*)

v66 sure...sealing...setting:

Which is just what they did

They secured the tomb of Jesus with

- a stamp/seal on the stone put at the door by Joseph and Nicodemus (to move the stone would break the seal)
- posting soldiers to guard the tomb

And I'm sure they left to enjoy the rest of the feast

- breathing a sigh of relief
- purring with pleasure

Application

6 questions raised by the record of Jesus' death and burial that demand answers

1. How did man

- the Jews
- the Romans
- Jesus of Nazareth, if He were merely man and not Deity

conspire to fulfill words recorded centuries before

- Who the Christ died with?
- Where the Christ was buried?
- The legs of the Christ not broken?
- The Christ pierced/stabbed?

all witnessed by both friendly and hostile eyewitnesses?

2. Do you believe God's record of the death and burial of His Christ?

John 19:35 he that saw *it* bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe

1 John 5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth

Is 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm (strength/power) of the LORD revealed?

Foretold in	Gen 22	Father sacrificing His only beloved Son
	Ps 22	David, Roman crucifixion
	Is 53	God's Suffering Servant and Sin Sacrifice
	Jonah	3 days and 3 nights followed by resurrection

Recorded in	4 Gospels	
	Rev 1:18	<i>I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen</i>

Is 53:1?
I do!

3. Does it matter to us personally that the Christ died on the cross?

If His death is not real, neither is His resurrection

1 Cor 15:14-19

Phil 3:7-11

Col 1:26-29

1 John 5:11-13

4. What say ye – did Jesus die on the cross for your sin...or not?

Selective belief/obedience of the Word of God is lethal

The Word of God given to the Jews...John 5:39...became a lifeless set of religious rituals

They were blind...due to unbelief...to the prophetic nature of all the Scripture

They will see

Zech 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn

Rev 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.

All will see

The believing see now

5. Are you a secret disciple of Jesus Christ?

What do “silent witnesses” need?

Boldness

Acts 4:23-31

Our opposition to anti-christ culture must NOT be silent!

6. Do you “crave” the body of Jesus and rest in the completed work of Jesus for your salvation?
Are you adding works in order to be pleasing to God?

Heb 4:1-3 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.