

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS CHRIST

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ is contained in all four gospels (Matt.27:33-56, Mark 15:22-41, Luke 23:33-49 and John 19:16-37).

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ occurred on Passover of 30AD on the 14 of Nisan (Wed.), between 9am and 3pm at Golgotha (the place of the skull / death row) (Mark 15:22, 25, 33).

We will begin by studying our lesson text by the following ten homiletical points.

- **Drink refused** (15:22-23) *Prophecy* (Psa.69:21) (oinos smurnizo/ perf.p.ptc/ pain killer narcotic)
- **Dividing garments** (15:24-26) *Prophecy* (Psa.22:18; John 19:23-24)
- **Divine appointment** (15:27-28) *Prophecy* (Isa.53:12)
- **Derision of Jesus** (15:29-32) *Prophecy* (Psa.22:6-8, 16; 69:20; 109:25) and (Isa.53:3, 7-8)
- **Darkness over the land** (15:33) Noon to 3pm (Psa.50:3)
- **Dispute over saying** (15:34-36) *Prophecy* (Psa.22:1/ Elijah/ 3pm)(Psa.69:21/drink accepted)
- **Death of Jesus** (15:37) *Prophecy* "breathed His last" (John 10:17-18)
- **Destroy inner veil of temple** (15:38) (Ex.26:31-33; Luke 23:45; Heb.9:3,7-8, 12; 10:19-20; 4:16)
- **Declaration of centurion** (15:39) "Truly, this man was the Son of God!" (Luke 23:47)
- **Disciples of Jesus** (15:40-41) Women from Galilee and Jerusalem

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.
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1. **Note the seven prophecies associated with the crucifixion of Jesus Christ in our lesson text (Acts 3:18). The details of the crucifixion of Jesus is outlined in prophecy (Psa.22:13-18; 129:3; Zech.12:10; Isa.50:6; 52:14; 53:1-12).**

These are associated with the prophecy of the "Smitten of God" of Isa.53:4-5. Smitten is a very strong word Hebrew word (nakah/ hophal/ to send judgment upon/ it was used for the 5th cycle of national discipline/ Lev.26:24/strike).

The crucifixion is described by the writer of Hebrew as occurring outside the camp and gate of the city (Heb.13:11-14; Lev.4:12; 16:27/ shadow Christology). "Christ's death outside Jerusalem represented the removal of sin, as had the removal of the bodies of sacrificial animals outside the camp of Israel." (NIV, Heb.13:12)

"According to Canon Liddon, there are 332 prophecies of OT literally fulfilled by Jesus Christ." (Archaeology and Bible History by J.P.Free, pg.284)

2. **The eight sayings of Jesus, while on the cross are divided into two parts:**

- The **first four** sayings were stated during the first 3 hours (9am-noon). They were directed at others.
 - Prayer of His enemies (Luke 23:34) – (Isa.53:12; Acts 7:60)
 - Promise to penitent thief (Luke 23:43)
 - Protector for mother (John 19:26; Luke 2:34-35)
 - Provision of mother (John 19:27; Ex.20:12; Eph.6:1-3)

- The **second four** sayings were stated near the end of the last 3 hours (noon-3pm). They were directed at Him.
 - Prophecy of His being forsaking (Psa.22:1)
 - Prophecy of His thirsting (Psa.22:15; 69:21; John 19:28-29)
 - Prophecy of His work being finished (Isa.53:5, 12)
 - Prophecy of His dismissing His spirit (Physical death) (Psa.31:5; Luke 23:46; John 10:17-18; Acts 7:59)

**“My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to accomplish His work.”
(John 4:34) (Gal.1:4; Titus 1:14; 1 John 3:16).**

3. The 'penitent thief' exchange was one of the great events that occurred while Jesus hung on the cross for the sins of the world (Luke 23:39-43). Only Luke records it.

- Protest (23:39)
- Penitence (23:40-42)
- Pardon (23:43)
- Paradise (23:43)

The protest thief wanted physical deliverance from crime. He lived for the here and now.

The penitent thief wanted a spiritual deliverance from sin. He lived for the here and after.

The penitent thief received a king's pardon. He was saved by grace and not by works (Eph.2:8-9).

“Jesus said to her (Martha), ‘did I not say to you, if you believe, you will see the glory of God?’ (John 11:40)

4. Some of the other interesting events that occurred during the crucifixion of Jesus were darkness falling over the land during the last three hours (from noon until 3pm), an earthquake that tore the veil of The Temple apart and split rocks in the graveyard at his death (Matt.27:45, 50-53; Mark 15:33; Luke 23:44-45).

This was a divine intervention since Passover occurs during full moon. Luke 23:44-45 used the Greek word (ekklipo/ eclipse) for a supernatural occurrence. It wasn't lifted until 3pm that was the time for the evening prayer and Passover sacrifice.

Most theologians believe this was the time when Jesus suffered the full judgment for the sin of the world (John 1:29; 1Cor.5:7; 1 Pet.1:18-19; 2:24; 3:18; Acts 26:18; 1 Pet.2:9; 1 Thess.5:4-5). The four quotes made at the end of these three hours seem to support the view.

Jesus was made sin on our behalf or in our stead (2 Cor.5:21; 1 John 2:1-2; 3:5-8; Heb.2:9-10; 5:7-9; Phil.2:8; Col.1:13-14, 20-22).

5. At the end of the crucifixion, Jesus said tetelestai teleo (perf.p.ind) "It is finished!" (John 19:30) recorded only by John.

The work of salvation or spiritual death for sin was completed according to prophesy (Psa.22:15; Isa.53:5,12; John 10:17-18; 17:4; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Heb.1:3).

The sin problem was completed resolved. Therefore belief in The Person and Work of Jesus Christ and not confession of personal sin is the issue in salvation (Acts 4:12; Rom.1:16). Nothing can be added to the completed Work of The Lord Jesus Christ for one's salvation! Salvation is yours by Faith and Faith alone! (Eph.2:8-9) tetelestai!

***The Roman centurion in charge of the crucifixion of Jesus said it best,
“Truly, this man was the Son of God!”
(Luke 23:47)***