Matthew 27:26-44

Resurrection of the King - Matthew 26-28

- o Death of Judas...
 - When JUDAS saw that Jesus had been CONDEMNED to death...
 - He REGRETTED [not repented] his choice to BETRAY Him and brought back the MONEY...
 - He admitted he SINNED because he BETRAYED an INNOCENT man...
 - But the PRIESTS had no compassion they responded that is YOUR problem...
 - So Judas threw down the money and went and hung himself...
 - The priests took the money and bought a field in the Hinnom Valley [γέεννα]!
- o Final Trial...
 - The Jewish leaders brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate [they could not execute Him]
 - They made MANY accusation against Jesus but He did NOT say a WORD...
 - Pilate had a CUSTOM of releasing ONE prisoner on the PASSOVER...
 - He gave the Jews a CHOICE did they want BARABBAS [murderer] or Jesus [Christ]
 - The people chose BARABBAS and demanded [imperfect] Jesus be CRUCIFIED!

• 1^{st} - The Preparation... vs. 26-31

- o 1st Scourged... vs. 26
 - When he had scourged Jesus [Pilate] delivered Him to be crucified!
 - SCOURGED [φραγελλόω] 2x in NT only used in the crucifixion!
 - Scourging was a Roman interrogation method meant to force a confession...
 - The prisoner would be tied to a post with their back bent over and exposed...
 - 39 lashes from a TWO inch leather whip [imbedded with metal and glass]
 - It would tear the back open ripping flesh and muscle down to the bone...
 - After each lash you would be asked to confess if you did the torture would lessen...
 - If you did NOT confess the lashings would grow STRONGER...
 - Jesus was SILENT meaning the scourging nearly killed Him!
 - Isaiah 53:7 "He was oppressed and treated harshly yet he never said a word."
- o 2nd King of Jews... vs. 27-30
 - The Robe... vs. 27-28
 - Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium.
 - And gathered the whole garrison around Him stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him!
 - After the SCOURGING Jesus was taken to the PRAETORIUM [πραιτώριον]
 - Thought to be the ANTONIO fortress on the north west side overlooking the Temple Mount...
 - There the entire GARRISON [600 troops] surrounded Jesus and took off His clothes [naked]
 - They placed a SCARLET [κόκκινος] robe on him which presents a PROBLEM...
 - Because in the parallel account in MARK we are told it was PURPLE [π op ϕ $\acute{\nu}$ p α]!
 - Ask TWO people look at a ONE color and tell you what it is...
 - More often than not they are going to give you a DIFFERENT answer!
 - If the stories were EXACTLY the same people might assume it was NOT genuine...
 - That Matthew saw a slightly different color actually gives the account validity...
 - It also may have deeper meaning SCARLET points to the SACRIFICE of Jesus **Isaiah 1:18**
 - And the color PURPLE points to the fact Jesus is KING [color of kings]
 - Crown of thorns... vs. 29-30
 - When they had twisted a crown of thorns they put it on His head and a reed in His right hand.
 - And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him saying: Hail King of the Jews!
 - Then they spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head!

- The SOLDIERS made a CROWN of THORNS [ἄκανθα]
- THORNS in Israel are between THREE and SIX centimeters long [and very sharp]
- Having put a REED [scepter] in His hand they BOWED before Him Romans 14:11
- And MOCKED [imperfect] Him saying REJOICE [χαίρω] it is the King of the Jews...
- Then they SPIT on Him and BEAT [imperfect] the THORNS into His HEAD with the REED!
- THORNS in the Bible are a PICTURE of the CURSE Genesis 3:18
- They represent the CARES of this world that keep us from being FRUITFUL Matthew 13:22
- Jesus was willing to take our CURSE and our CARES...
- He was BEATEN with them so that we could be set FREE John 8:36
- 2^{ND} The crucifixion... vs. 31-38
 - o 1st Via Dolorosa... vs. 31-32
 - Heavy burden... vs. 31
 - When they had mocked Him they took the robe off Him put His own clothes on Him.
 - And led Him away to be crucified!
 - After the SOLDIERS had their fun they put His clothes back on...
 - Then they LED [ἀπάγω] Jesus to be CRUCIFIED [σταυρόω]
 - They placed a LARGE cross beam [30-50 kilograms] on His lacerated back...
 - It was the responsibility of the CONDEMNED to bear their own CROSS!
 - Luke 9:23 "If anyone desires to come after Me let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."
 - The choice to follow Jesus is NOT an easy one...
 - What we are saying is that we are willing to DIE to ourselves...
 - We CHOOSE to take up our CROSS daily and follow Him!
 - Simon... vs. 32
 - Now as they came out they found a man of Cyrene Simon by name.
 - Him they compelled to bear His cross!
 - As they LED Jesus out of the CITY His cross became too heavy to bear...
 - The SOLDIERS found a man from CYRENE [Libya] called SIMON...
 - He was FORCED to pick up the CROSS and carry it for Jesus!
 - Although we do NOT know for sure what happened to SIMON after this...
 - His inclusion in all THREE synoptic gospels suggests he was well known in the early church...
 - Some think he was part of the REVIVAL in the city of Antioch **Acts 11:20**
 - And that his son RUFUS [Mark 15:21] became a missionary to Rome Romans 16:13
 - While it is NOT easy to take up our CROSS and follow Jesus...
 - The good news is we are NOT alone we are surrounded by FAMILY...
 - Brothers and sisters who would LOVE to help us carry our BURDEN!
 - Galatians 6:2 "Bear one anothers burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."
 - o 2nd Golgotha... vs. 33
 - The Skull...
 - When they had come to a place called Golgotha that is to say: Place of a Skull!
 - Jesus was taken to a place called GOLGOTHA [אַלְגֹּלֶת] in Latin it is called CALVARY...
 - It is a HILL on the NORTH side of the city of Jerusalem [looks like a skull]
 - Located next to the main road into the city it was the common place for EXECUTIONS!
 - This is ALSO the HIGHEST point of Mount MORIAH...
 - The EXACT place where Abraham went to offer Isaac!
 - **Genesis 22:14** "Abraham called the name of the place: [יְהוָה יִרְאֶה]. As it is said to this day: In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided!"
 - Outside...

- **Hebrews 13:12** "Jesus [to] sanctify the people with His blood suffered outside the gate."
- Jesus had to LEAVE the TEMPLE the presence of God...
- He went OUTSIDE of the city to the place called GOD will PROVIDE!
- He had to go there because we were also on the OUTSIDE ...
- Our sin had SEPARATED us from God and Jesus came to PROVIDE a way BACK...
- He did so through His BLOOD so that He might SANCTIFY [ἀγιάζω] us!
- o 3rd The Cross... vs. 34-35
 - Vinegar... vs. 34
 - They gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. When He tasted it He would not drink!
 - The SOLDIERS gave Jesus VINEGAR mixed with a bitter herb [myrrh]
 - Likely an inexpensive cheap drink used by the SOLDIERS to get DRUNK...
 - It was MEANT to dull the PAIN for what was coming next...
 - Jesus tasted it and refused [imperfect] so He could take the FULL weight of our SIN!
 - Excruciating...
 - Then they crucified Him!
 - At 9am in the morning they CRUCIFIED [σταυρόω] Jesus Mark 15:25
 - CRUCIFIXION is arguably the most PAINFUL form of death ever invented...
 - Created by the Persians around 300 B.C. [impalement]
 - It was modified by the Romans to prolong the death [could take days]!
 - Jesus was placed on His back and nailed between the bones of His forearm [20cm spike]
 - His knees were bent to 45° angle the feet then nailed to the cross...
 - Placed upright Jesus would have been UNABLE to bear His own weight...
 - His shoulders would pop out followed by elbows then wrist [all hyperextended]
 - Tired and oxygen deprived it became harder and harder to breath...
 - Death came from slow asphyxiation and finally death came from a BROKEN heart!
- o 4th The Prophecies... vs. 35/38
 - Gambling... vs. 35
 - [They] divided His garments casting lots fulfilling that which was spoken by the prophet:
 - They divided My garments among them and for My clothing they cast lots!
 - The SOLDIERS decided to cast LOTS for Jesus clothing...
 - The problem was Jesus had a nice COAT made of ONE piece of cloth John 19:23
 - So rather than CUTTING it [ruining it] they decided to GAMBLE for it...
 - This seemingly MINOR details is included in all FOUR Gospels...
 - Because it points us back to the PSALM that predicted the death of the Messiah!
 - The Psalm opens with: My God My God why have you forsaken me **Psalm 22:1**
 - It goes on to say they PIERCED His hands and feet Psalm 22:15
 - And even had the DETAIL that they gambled for His CLOTHES Psalm 22:18
 - A lot of people like to GAMBLE we tend to think we can beat the odds...
 - But we do NOT just like to gamble with our money we gamble with our ETERNITY...
 - $\bullet \hspace{0.4cm}$ Living for this world thinking there is still time to get RIGHT with God
 - It is not worth the risk do must play around with our salvation choose Jesus NOW!
 - Thieves... vs. 38
 - Then two robbers were crucified with Him one on the right and another on the left!
 - There were TWO thieves crucified beside Jesus [one on each side]
 - This also fulfilled PROPHECY as we are told in the parallel account Mark 15:28
 - **Isaiah 53:9** "He was buried like a criminal [but] was put in a rich mans grave." [NLT]
 - NOTHING about CROSS was a surprise God gave David the derails 1000 years earlier...
 - And told Isaiah who He would DIE with and where He would be BURIED!

- Forgive them...
 - Jesus had been MOCKED BEATEN and was being CRUCIFIED...
 - Yet as the SOLDIERS gambled for the last possessions He had on earth...
 - And He hung between two THIEVES as if He were also a common CRIMINAL...
 - Rather than being BITTER He simply showed GRACE!
 - Luke 22:34 "Father forgive [imperative] them for they do not know [perfect] what they do."
 - Like Jesus we know what is going to happen to us in life...
 - People are going to MOCK us and they are going to HURT us...
 - But rather than getting BITTER at them we need to remember...
 - They do NOT know [perfect] what they are doing they are LOST...
 - Which is why we FORGIVE them hoping to show them the LOVE of God!
- o 5th The accusation... vs. 36-37
 - Sitting down they kept watch over Him there.
 - And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him:
 - THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS!
 - Having CRUCIFIED Jesus the SOLDIERS sat down to wait for His death...
 - They placed a SIGN with His CRIME over His head: Jesus the King of the Jews!
 - It was written in THREE languages: Latin [INRI] Greek and Hebrew...
 - The Jewish priests objected they wanted Pilate to CHANGE the wording...
 - The reason for the objection the acronym in Hebrew was Yahweh [יָהוָה]
 - **John 19:22** "Pilate answered: What I have written I have written."
- 3RD THE CHOICE... vs. 39-44
 - o 1st Save Yourself... vs. 39-43
 - The Crowd... vs. 39-40
 - Those who passed by blasphemed Him wagging their heads and saying:
 - You who destroy the temple and build it in three days save Yourself!
 - If You are the Son of God come down from the cross!
 - The CROWDS that passed by the ROAD BLASPHEMED [imperfect] the Lord...
 - They TAUNTED Jesus He said he could destroy the Temple and rebuild it in THREE days...
 - Anyone who could do that must SAVE [imperative] themselves...
 - SINCE [indicative] He is the Son of God He must [imperative] come down from the CROSS!
 - The people were BLIND they did NOT see Jesus was DESTROYING the TEMPLE....
 - Not the BUILDING but His BODY and in THREE days He would RISE again!
 - **John 2:21** "[Jesus] was speaking of the temple of His body."
 - The Leaders... vs. 41-42
 - Likewise the chief priests also mocking with the scribes and elders said:
 - He saved others. Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel:
 - Let Him now come down from the cross and we will believe Him!
 - The Religious leaders joined in on the MOCKING...
 - Jesus had SAVED others [indicative] but lacked the POWER [δύναμαι] to save Himself...
 - SINCE [indicative] He is the King of Israel He MUST [imperative] come down...
 - ullet Then all of the leader would [future] put their FAITH [πιστεύω] in Him!
 - Jesus did NOT lack POWER far from it He is the ALMIGHTY Revelation 1:8
 - ALMIGHTY [παντοκράτωρ] ALL [πᾶς] POWERFUL [κράτος]
 - But He chose to use His power to SAVE rather than HIMSELF!
 - Trusting God... vs. 43
 - He trusted in God. Let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him.

- For He said: I am the Son of God!
- Jesus put His FAITH [πιστεύω] in God let us see if THE God [ὸν θεόν] wants [θέλω] Him...
- For Jesus said He was [no article] a SON of [no article] a god...
- But the WILL of THE God for Jesus was for Him to NOT come down!
- Luke 22:42 "Not My will $[\theta \dot{\epsilon} \lambda \omega]$ but Yours be done."
- Jesus could have come down off the CROSS at any point...
- He did NOT have to SUFFER He did NOT deserve to DIE...
- But He stayed because it was the WILL of the FATHER...
- He stayed because it was the ONLY way for us to be FORGIVEN...
- If He had SAVED Himself then NONE of us could have been SAVED!
- o 2nd Repentance... vs. 44
 - Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing!
 - The THIEVES beside Jesus also joined in MOCKING Him...
 - Saying SINCE [indicative] You are the CHRIST save [imperative] Yourself and US Luke 23:39
 - But perhaps seeing how Jesus RESPONDED to the mocking [said nothing]
 - Concluding that Jesus was an INNOCENT man and had done NO wrong...
 - ONE of the THIEVES had a change of HEART and said to Jesus...
 - Lord [κύριος] remember me when You come into Your kingdom...
 - Jesus who had been SILENT up until this point SPOKE!
 - Luke 23:43 "[Ἀμήν] I say to you today you will be with Me in Paradise."
 - Like those thieves we have a choice what do we do with Jesus...
 - He gave up everything condemned to death for us paying our penalty...
 - He suffered unimaginably so that we might experience the Joy of heaven...
 - Do we believe do we receive His gift of forgiveness!