

Matthew 27:45-56

● RESURRECTION OF THE KING - Matthew 26-28

o The Crucifixion...

- Jesus was SCROUGED - and sent to the PRAETORIUM...
- The Roman soldiers put a RED robe on Him - and a CROWN of thorns...
- They MOCKED Him - beat Him - then sent Him to be CRUCIFIED on GOLGOTHA [skull]
- There beside the main road - He was NAILED to a tree between TWO thieves...
- The soldiers gambled for His clothes as He hung dying...
- But Jesus was NOT bitter - instead He asked the Father to FORGIVE them - **Luke 22:34**

o The Choice...

- The crowds who passed by MOCKED - He said he could rebuild the TEMPLE in THREE days...
- The leaders MOCKED - He saved others but CANNOT save Himself...
- The thieves MOCKED - if You are the CHRIST save Yourself and US...
- But ONE of them had a change of heart [forgive them] - and asked to be REMEMBERED!
- **Luke 23:43** - "[Αμὴν] I say to you today you will be with Me in Paradise."

● 1ST - DARKNESS... vs. 45-49

o 1st - Light of the world... vs. 45

- Dark hour...
 - Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land!
 - Jesus was CRUCIFIED at 9am on a Thursday - **Mark 15:25**
 - From 12pm to 3pm the WHOLE [πᾶς] earth [τὴν γῆν] was DARK!
 - There is a lot of SPECULATION about what caused this DARKNESS...
 - Some say it could have been CLOUDS - others argue for an ECLIPSE...
 - Neither would explain how the WHOLE world went DARK...
 - But since Jesus is the LIGHT of the world - when He died the LIGHT went out!
 - **John 8:12** - "Jesus spoke to them again saying: I am the light of the world."
- Victory...
 - In this DARK hour - it appeared the ENEMY was victorious...
 - Satan no doubt was rejoicing - because he thought killing Jesus meant he WON!
 - **I Corinthians 1:8** - "[But] none of the rulers of this age [understood the plan]. For had they know they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."
 - Although this was the DARKEST hour in history - it was all a part of the PLAN of God...
 - And He would follow up this DARK day - with our salvation!
 - Times are often the most DIFFICULT - just before God does the most AMAZING work...
 - That is why we must NEVER lose hope - even if we cannot SEE it - God is WORKING....
 - We just need to REMEMBER - it is always the DARKEST just before the DAWN!

o 2nd - Forsaken... vs. 46

- Aramaic...
 - About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice saying:
 - Eli - Eli lama sabachthani? That is: My God - My God why have You forsaken Me?
 - Around [περί] 3pm - just before His death...
 - Jesus CRIED [ἀναβοάω] out to the FATHER with a LOUD [μέγας] voice...
 - ELI [2 - [ܐܠܝ for emphasis - the Aramaic word for My [ܝ] God [ܐܠܗ]
 - LAMA - the Aramaic - to [ܐ] what [ܐܢܝ] - or for what reason...
 - SABACHTHANI - the Aramaic [ܫܒܚܢܝ] - did You [ܐ] LEAVE [ܐܬ] Me [ܝ]

- This saying of Jesus is ONLY recorded in Matthew and Mark [Ελωι] - **Mark 15:34**
- Jesus spoke them in ARAMAIC [similar to Hebrew] - the language of the Babylon...
- Because although the Bible is written in GREEK - most Jews spoke ARAMAIC [captivity]!
- Separation...
 - For the first time in Eternity – the FATHER and the SON were separated...
 - Jesus who had never SINNED – now bore every SIN of every person...
 - The FATHER forsook the SON – because He carried the SIN of the whole world!
 - **II Corinthians 5:21** – “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us - that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”
 - Sin SEPARATES – because God is LIGHT and there can be no DARKNESS in Him – **I John 1:5**
 - When we choose to SIN – we are choosing to SEPARATE ourselves from God...
 - SIN keeps us from wanting to read our Bible – go to church – fellowship with believers...
 - SIN will keep us from growing in the LORD – but the LORD keeps us from SIN!
- Prophecy...
 - **Psalms 22:1** - “My God - My God - why have You forsaken Me!”
 - When Jesus was on the CROSS He was alone - NO one stood with Him...
 - He felt like He was a worm - something that no one cared about!
 - **Psalms 22:6** – “I am a worm and no man. A reproach of men!”
 - WORM [תולע] - a small worm used to create RED dye...
 - A WORM [תולע] that in order to give life - attaches itself to a tree...
 - It dies as it gives birth staining the tree in a RED stain...
 - After its death - the RED stain becomes WHITE as snow and falls off the tree!
 - Jesus allowed Himself to be nailed to a tree - stained it with His blood...
 - After His death - He took the RED stain of our sin and made it WHITE as snow!
 - **Isaiah 1:18** - “Though your sins are like scarlet [תולע] they shall be as white as snow.”
- o 3rd - Not Elijah... vs. 47/49
 - Bad interpretation...
 - Some of those who stood there when they heard that said: This Man is calling for Elijah.
 - The rest said: Let Him alone. let us see if Elijah will come to save Him!
 - Some [τις] of the CROWD who heard what Jesus said...
 - MISTOOK [imperfect] Him for calling [φωνέω] out to ELIJAH [the prophet]
 - They assumed Jesus was using ELI [עלי] - as an abbreviation for ELIJAH...
 - Others [λοιπός] in the CROWD insisted [imperative] Jesus be LEFT alone...
 - They wanted to see IF [εἰ] ELIJAH would come [indicative] and save Him!
 - Be careful...
 - ELIJAH is considered the greatest of all the PROPHETS...
 - He faced off against the 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel - **I King 18:40**
 - He was one of TWO men in the Bible to NEVER die [chariot of fire] - **II Kings 2:11**
 - And was prophesied to come back before the Messiah returns [John the Baptist] - **Malachi 4:5**
 - Therefore to this day Israel is still looking for Elijah to COME [fourth cup of Seder]
 - And He is assumed to be one of the TWO witnesses in the TRIBULATION - **Revelation 11:3**
 - But Jesus was NOT calling out to ELIJAH - He was calling out to God [עליון]
 - All of this came from MISINTERPRETING one single WORD...
 - This is why it is so important to be a GOOD student of the Bible...
 - It is easy to MISINTERPRET a verse if we are NOT careful!
 - **II Timothy 2:15** - “Study to show yourself approved... rightly dividing the word of truth.”
- o 4th - I Thirst... vs. 48

- Compassion...
 - Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge.
 - Filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed and offered it to Him to drink!
 - ONE person responded to Jesus CRYING out...
 - They IMMEDIATELY ran and grabbed a sponge and filled it with VINEGAR [sour wine]
 - They put it on a STICK so that Jesus could DRINK [imperfect] from it!
- Broken Heart...
 - If we are wondering why give Him VINEGAR when He was carrying out for God [יִלְאָ]
 - We get the answer in the parallel account in the book John!
 - **John 19:28** - "Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished... said: I thirst!"
 - Jesus THIRST was a result of His physical condition...
 - His scourging and crucifixion put Him in [hypovolemic] shock from massive loss of blood...
 - His heart would have raced to pump blood that was NOT there...
 - His kidneys would have begun to shut down to preserve body fluids...
 - Causing Him to experience extreme THIRST as the body tried to replenish lost fluids...
 - Leading to a rapid heartbeat causing fluid to build up around His heart [pericardial effusion]
 - That shortly would lead to heart failure – Jesus died of a broken heart!
- **2ND - DEATH OF JESUS... vs. 50-56**
 - o 1st - It is Finished... vs. 50
 - Final words...
 - Jesus cried out again with a loud voice!
 - Jesus gave one FINAL loud [μέγας] cry [κράζω]
 - **John 19:30** - "He said: it is finished!"
 - FINISHED – from the root [τέλος] – to COMPLETE or bring to an END...
 - [Perfect] – the work of REDEMPTION was completed ONCE and for ALL...
 - [Passive] – there is NOTHING we had to do – Jesus did it ALL...
 - [Indicative] – there is no question that it is TRUE – the price was paid for EVERYONE!
 - Sent away...
 - [He] yielded up His spirit!
 - Jesus did NOT die - He [active] sent away [ἀφίημι] His Spirit [τὸ πνεῦμα]
 - Because NO one could take His life - He CHOSE to lay it down...
 - And He also had the POWER to take it back again!
 - **John 10:18** - "No one takes [My life] from Me but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it again."
 - Jesus did NOT come to HEAL us - make us RICH - or tell us how to have BETTER lives...
 - Jesus came to DIE – because it was the ONLY way to save us from our SIN!
 - People are always trying to ADD to the work of the CROSS...
 - Telling us we MUST go to church - be good - obey the commandments...
 - Yet when Jesus said - it is FINISHED – He meant it...
 - It does NOT matter who we are – what we have done...
 - How many mistakes we have made – if we messed up TEN years ago – or TODAY...
 - The work of the CROSS was COMPLETE – it took care of EVERYTHING!
 - o 2nd - The Veil... vs. 51
 - Top down...
 - Behold the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom!
 - BEHOLD [ἰδοὺ] - we are COMMANDED [imperative] to look...
 - The moment Jesus DIED - the VEIL of the TEMPLE was TORN [passive] - from the TOP down...
 - The TEMPLE was divided inside into TWO parts...

- The HOLY [הַקֹּדֶשׁ] - was the FIRST room where ONLY the priest were allowed...
- And the HOLY of HOLIES [קֹדֶשׁ הַקֹּדֶשׁ] - the inner room with the Ark of the Covenant...
- The VEIL was a TEN centimeter thick cloth - separating the HOLY from the HOLY of HOLIES!
- Separation...
 - Only the High priest could enter the HOLY of HOLIES – Day of Atonement - **Leviticus 16**
 - He would enter with the BELLS on his robe – if they stopped it meant he was DEAD...
 - Tradition tells us he would have a ROPE around his foot - to drag him out...
 - The reason was to show the SEPARATION between God and man - **Hebrews 9:7-8**
 - But because Jesus DIED for our sin – we have ACCESS to the presence of God...
 - There is no longer a SEPARATION between God and man...
 - We can now boldly enter the very throne room of God – the Holiest of All!
 - **Hebrews 4:16** – “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”
- Repaired...
 - Tradition says that not long after – the Jewish leaders sewed the VEIL back up...
 - God had OPENED up the way – men wanted to CLOSE it again...
 - They would rather have RELIGION – than a true RELATIONSHIP with God!
 - Men love religion because it puts salvation in their hands...
 - But Religion cannot get us to heaven – on the contrary it keep us from God...
 - It is like putting the Veil that Jesus tore down back up again!
- o 3rd - The Saints... vs. 51-53
 - Open graves...
 - The earth quaked and the rocks were split.
 - The graves were opened and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised.
 - Coming out of the graves after His resurrection - went into the holy city appeared to many!
 - Along with the torn VEIL - the EARTH [ἡ γῆ] shook [σεῖω]
 - The GRAVES of MANY [πολύς] of the SAINTS [ἅγιος] opened up [passive]
 - Those who had fallen SLEEP [κοιμάω] - a euphemism for believers who have DIED...
 - Were RESURRECTED - came out of their graves AFTER Jesus was raised [He was FIRST]
 - They went into Jerusalem [Holy city] - and appeared to MANY [πολύς] people!
 - The suggestion is Old Testament saints who were buried in Jerusalem...
 - King David - King Hezekiah - the Prophet Isaiah - and others...
 - Were all walking around Jerusalem in their GLORIFIED bodies AFTER Jesus Resurrection!
 - Paradise...
 - When Old Testament saints DIED they did NOT go to heaven - their SIN was NOT yet paid...
 - In the center of the EARTH - there are TWO compartments...
 - One a place of COMFORT - for those who DIED in faith [paradise]
 - The other a place of TORMENT - for those who REJECT God [hell]
 - When Jesus died on the CROSS - He descended into the GRAVE [ἡλίσκος] - **Ephesians 4:9**
 - He went down to Abrahams Bosom [παράδεισος] - **Luke 16:22**
 - There He shared the GOOD news to all who had died in FAITH - **Isaiah 61:1**
 - Then He set the CAPTIVES free - because the price for SIN had been paid...
 - At which point the earth SHOOK - because the GRAVE could NOT hold the SAINTS!
 - **I Corinthians 15:55-57** – “O death where is your victory? How we thank God who gives us victory over sin and death through Jesus Christ our Lord!” [NLT]
 - The Gospel message is NOT just about the DEATH of Jesus...
 - They KEY to the Gospel is that there is also a RESURRECTION...
 - It is the PROOF that there is DEATH is NOT the end...

- **We have the confidence that one day we also we overcome the GRAVE!**
 - **II Corinthians 5:1** - "We know that if our earthly house - this tent is destroyed - we have a building from God - a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens."
- o 4th - The Soldiers... vs. 54
- Fearful...
 - When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus.
 - Saw the earthquake and the things that had happened they feared greatly saying:
 - Truly this was the Son of God!
 - The CENTURION and the SOLDIERS who were guarding Jesus...
 - Saw the sky grow DARK and the earth QUAKE - and were very AFRAID...
 - They were the ONES who had crucified Jesus - and were questioning their life choices...
 - They said: it is TRUE [ἀληθής] that Jesus was [imperfect] - A son of A god [no article]!
 - The soldiers were AMAZED by seeing the DARKENED sky and EARTHQUAKE...
 - But they did NOT necessarily believe that Jesus was God - who died for their sins!
 - Emotional...
 - **James 2:19** - "Even the demons believe - and tremble."
 - DEMONS [δαιμόνιον] believe there is a God - and they have an emotional response to Him...
 - Like the SOLDIERS - they TREMBLE in His presence...
 - But it goes without saying that DEMONS will NOT be saved!
 - Just because we attend a moving worship service - that makes us FEEL closer to God...
 - Or we ENJOY coming to church - but do NOT change our heart...
 - Those EMOTION do NOT bring clarity to TRUTH - they often conceals it...
 - The ONLY way to be SAVED is to CHOSE to put our FAITH in Jesus!
- o 5th - The Women... vs. 55-56
- Looking on...
 - Many women who followed Jesus from Galilee ministering to Him were looking on from afar.
 - Among whom were Mary Magdalene - Mary the mother of James and Joses.
 - And the mother of Zebedee sons!
 - There was also a group of WOMEN who were watching the CRUCIFIXION from AFAR...
 - Mary the mother of Jesus was there to see her son die - **John 19:25**
 - Mary Magdalene [Jesus cast SEVEN demons out of her] - **Luke 8:2**
 - Mary the mother of James and Jose [perhaps the sister of Mary] - **John 19:25**
 - Salome the mother of James and John [Sons of Thunder] - **Mark 15:40**
 - The Apostle John was also there - **John 19:26**
 - Faith...
 - These WOMEN and John saw the same thing as the SOLDIERS...
 - But they had a very different RESPONSE - they did NOT fear - they had HOPE...
 - They heard the WORD of God - and had a sliver of FAITH...
 - Maybe - just maybe - THREE days later Jesus would be BACK!
 - **Mark 8:31** - "The Son of Man must... be killed - and after three days rise again."