

Lesson 4 - Jesus' death, burial, resurrection - Matt. 26:36-28:20

From the first glimpse of the "Seed of Woman" bruising the head of Satan the Bible story is moving toward this climax. It is both a horrible time – Jesus, the Son of God, dies and a wonderful time – Jesus died for sinners (you and me) and was resurrected from the dead to give us hope of our own resurrection.

He died the death we deserve.

I. Matthew 26

A. 26:36-46 – Jesus was a human. He did not want to die.

1. Why did He die? It was the will of the Father. The **only way** for us to be forgiven.

II. Matthew 27

A. 27:1-10 – Judas regretted his sin but did not repent nor seek forgiveness.

B. 27:11-25 – Pilate acted as a politician not as an honorable leader.

C. 27:26-28 – The scourging was at times to beat the truth out of the accused. Other times it was the punishment itself. The Jews would only whip a man 39 times (they could not go over 40). The Romans had no such rule. The accused could be beaten to the point of death.

1. The whole process of the death of Jesus was a death in **the most humiliating way** possible. Not a quick humane death.
2. **key idea** – The more we understand the horror of Jesus' death, the more we understand the seriousness of our sin. Jesus took our place. We sin therefore we should die. Jesus never sinned yet He died. He substituted His death for the death we deserve. He satisfied the justice of God so that God could forgive us and treat us as if our debt has been paid.

D. 27:29-50 – Jesus was put to death by the authority of the Romans, motivated by the envy of the Jewish leaders but by the will of God.

E. 27:51-66 – Jesus was buried in Joseph's tomb.

1. Typically the Jews put multiple bodies (usually family members) in a single tomb. There was no one else in this tomb (there could be no mistake when the tomb was found empty). A large stone was put over the mouth (Jesus would not

have been able to move it if He had just fainted on the cross). The tomb was sealed and guards were placed to secure it (no one could steal the body).

III. Matthew 28

A. 28:1-10 – Jesus is alive again.

1. **key idea** – The empty tomb is the greatest evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

B. 28:11-15 – This explanation is not credible. They could not have seen the disciples steal the body if asleep. In addition, the apostles stood and preached Jesus as the Son of God beginning Acts 2 and made the resurrection their key evidence. Every apostle died a violent death, except John. None changed his story.

C. 28:18-20 – Jesus has accomplished His redemptive work and is now in the position of authority. He returned to Heaven to sit on the throne and sent out the apostles to preach the good news that salvation is in Jesus.

IV. Please read Acts 2 and 8 for next time.