

Sunday Morning Message

April 2, 2023

Title – *The Crucifixion*

Text – John 19:17 - 42

Congregational Reading – John 19:17 - 22

Introduction

We are examining the events occurring after Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. We have discussed the denial of Peter, particularly considering the steps that led up to Peter's failure. In the last message, we saw Jesus' first appearance before Pilate and His appearance before King Herod.

Review the Timeline of Events:

1. Jesus Arrested (Matthew 26:47 – 56; Mark 14:43 – 52; Luke 22:47 – 53; John 18:2 – 11)
2. Jesus Is Brought Before Annas (John 18:12 – 14, 19 - 23)
3. Jesus Is Brought Before Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57, 59 – 68; Mark 14:53, 55 – 65; Luke 22:54, 63 - 65; John 18:24)
4. Peter's Denials (Matthew 26:58, 69 – 75; Mark 14:54, 66 – 72; Luke 22:55 – 62; John 18:15 – 18, 25 – 27)
5. Jesus Condemned by the Sanhedrin (Matthew 27:1 - 2; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66 – 71)
6. Suicide of Judas (Matthew 27: 3 – 10)

Timeline of events that will follow Jesus' appearance before the high priests, and the Sanhedrin:

7. Jesus First Appearance Before Pilate (Matthew 27:11 – 14; Mark 15:2 – 5; Luke 23:1 – 5; John 18:28 – 38)
8. Jesus Appears Before Herod (Luke 23:6 – 12)
9. Jesus Second Appearance Before Pilate and Release of Barabbas (Matthew 27:15 – 26; Mark 15:6 – 15; Luke 23:13 – 25; John 18:39 – 40)

10. Jesus Mocked and Beaten and Final Sentence Pronounced (Matthew 27:27 – 31; Mark 15:16 – 19; John 19:1 – 16)
11. Journey to Golgotha (Matthew 27:32 – 34; Mark 15:20 – 23; Luke 23:26 – 32; John 19:17)
12. The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:35 – 44; Mark 15:24 – 32; Luke 23:33 – 43; John 19:18 – 27)
13. The Last Hours (Matthew 27:45 – 50; Mark 15:33 – 37; Luke 23:44 – 46; John 19:28 – 37)
14. Miraculous Occurrences at the Cross (Matthew 27:51 – 56; Mark 15:38 – 41; Luke 23:47 – 49)
15. Jesus' Burial (Matthew 27:57 – 61; Mark 15:42 – 47; Luke 23:50 – 56; John 19:38 – 42)
16. Pilate Seals the Tomb (Matthew 27:62 – 66)

Why do we study these events? For several reasons:

- We want to appreciate the sacrifice made by the Lord to provide salvation for us.
- We want to be inspired to be willing to make sacrifices for others as well.

We will attempt to put the events of the crucifixion in a chronological order, using John's Gospel as our foundation; and then inserting pertinent information from the other three Gospel accounts.

"And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha:" - (John 19:17)

It is interesting that Luke calls the place "Calvary," but the same Greek word (kranion) is used for both skull and Calvary. Golgotha is the Hebrew word for skull. Calvary is apparently the Latin word for skull.

The place of crucifixion may have been named thus because it was shaped like a skull; or perhaps it may have been named thus because of the connection with death.

"And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not." - (Mark 15:23)

Mark tells us that the wine was mixed with myrrh, which was used as a fragrance, and as a narcotic. It would deaden the pain; but Jesus refused it.

Matthew tells us that it was vinegar mingled with gall. It was fermented, and the word gall indicated that it was very bitter.

"And it was the third hour, and they crucified him." - (Mark 15:25)

Explain "hours" referred to in the Bible:

Third Hour – 9 AM

Sixth Hour – Noon

Ninth Hour – 3 PM

The Nighttime was divided into watches.

"Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst." - (John 19:18)

"And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors." - (Mark 15:28)

The prophecy mentioned here is from Psalm 53.

Matthew and Mark call them thieves; Luke calls them malefactors.

"And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that he said, I am King of the Jews. Pilate answered, What I have written I have written." - (John 19:19 - 22)

"Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots." - (Luke 23:34)

The "Father, forgive them" statement is exclusive to Luke's gospel account.

"Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did." - (John 19:23 - 24)

"And sitting down they watched him there;" - (Matthew 27:36)

This prophecy is from Psalm 22:18

"Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene." - (John 19:25)

Notice that there are three women named Mary here along with Jesus' aunt. According to Matthew 27:56, there were two women named "Mary" present, besides the Lord's mother; but it also mentions that the mother of Zebedee's children was there (Matthew 27:56). Could it be

that John and James were Jesus first cousins? Mark 15:40 mentions a woman named Salome. Could she be the mother of John and James?

"When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home." - (John 19:26 - 27)

The account of Jesus' discussion with John regarding His mother's future is unique to John's Gospel.

"And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God. The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth." - (Matthew 27:39 - 44)

"And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." - (Luke 23:39 - 43)

The account of the salvation of the thief on the cross is unique to Luke's Gospel.

"And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour." - (Luke 23:44)

"And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias." - (Mark 15:34 - 35)

"After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst." - (John 19:28)

"And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down." - (Mark 15:36)

"29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." (John 19:29-30)

"It is finished" means "the debt has been paid".

The drinking of the vinegar was a fulfillment of Psalm 69:21, which meant that every detail of Old Testament prophecy had been fulfilled by Christ.

"And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." - (Luke 23:46)

John tells us that He bowed His head.

"And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God." - (Matthew 27:51 - 54)

"And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned. And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things." - (Luke 23:48 - 49)

"The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken." - (John 19:31 - 36)

According to Exodus 12:6 and Numbers 9:12, the Passover Lamb could not have a broken bone.

"And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced." - (John 19:37)

His being pierced was a fulfilment of Zechariah 12:10

"When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered." - (Matthew 27:57 - 58)

"And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph." - (Mark 15:44 - 45)

"And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the

garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand." - (John 19:38 - 42)

"And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid." - (Luke 23:54 - 55)

"Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch." - (Matthew 27:62 - 66)

"And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment." - (Luke 23:56)

Conclusion

1. The Crucifixion proves that Jesus is sovereign over His world.

In this message today, we mentioned a half dozen Old Testament prophecies regarding the death of Christ that were fulfilled exactly. In other words, God told us what was going to happen and how it was going to happen and then He did it.

*"7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: **therefore have I set my face like a flint**, and I know that I shall not be ashamed." (Isaiah 50:7)*

"10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10)

*"8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**" (Revelation 13:8)*

"8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together." (Genesis 22:8)

Every bloody sacrifice performed in the Old Testament pointed to and pictured the death of Christ.

2. The Crucifixion proves that Jesus loves you.

"6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:6-8)

"13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

If God loved you in His death, He still loves you through His life. You and I have problems and

difficulties that we will face in this life but get hold of the fact that God loves you in and through those difficulties. All the promises that we have in Scripture are based upon the fact that Jesus loves you.

*"5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I **will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**" (Hebrews 13:5)*

"13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

*"20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: **and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.**" (Matthew 28:20)*

"6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:" (Philippians 1:6)

3. The Crucifixion proves that Jesus' sacrifice paid the complete debt that you and I owed for our sin.

"20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die..." (Ezekiel 18:20a)

"23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Sin had to be punished. Jesus paid the punishment that your sin, and mine sin deserved. He died in your place.

Have you received the free gift of eternal life with Christ in Heaven for all eternity that was provided for you and paid for through Jesus' shed blood on the Cross of Calvary.

God loves you.

God is willing to forgive your sin, if you simply place your faith in what Jesus did for you by dying on the Cross for your sins.

"13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (1 John 5:13)