

The Death of Jesus

Matthew 27:33-54

33 And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), **34** they offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when He tasted it, He would not drink it.

35 And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among them by casting lots. **36** Then they sat down and kept watch over Him there. **37** And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”



38 Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. **39** And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads **40** and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

41 So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked Him, saying, **42** “He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him come down now from the cross, and we will believe Him. For He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

44 And the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him in the same way.

We Him love because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” 47 And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

48 And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. 49 But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.”

50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.

51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, 53 and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

54 When the centurion and those who were there with Him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

(Read also: Mark 15:16-41, Luke 23:26-49, John 19:17-30)

A Closer Look - *Repentance and Forgiveness*

Out of His deep love, God the Father willingly sacrificed His Son for our sins. Through faith in Jesus death and resurrection, we now have the promise of eternal life. Through daily repentance and forgiveness, a bond of love is maintained with God. Out of love for our Savior and the grace He offers, we will desire to sacrifice our will to God.

1. An offering sacrificed in the Old Testament was to be perfect in every way. To sacrifice is to surrender something of great value out of love.

a. Why is Jesus the only one that could have died for our sins?

~ 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

b. Why did Jesus willingly give His life for us? *~ But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 (Read also: John 3:16)*

c. Out of gratitude for God's incredible mercy, what sacrifice are we to give? *~ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 (Read also: 1 Peter 2:5)*

2. Our sin has made us slaves to fear. Because of Jesus sacrifice, we can come to Him with a repentant heart. We are forgiven and our place as heirs to the kingdom is restored. ~

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. Hebrews 2:14-15

- a. To repent means you realize you are sinful and ask for forgiveness from God.** ~ *Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. Acts 8:21*
- b. How should this change your life?** ~ *Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. Matthew 3:8*
- c. What does it mean to be forgiven?** ~ *“I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins.” Isaiah 43:25 (Read also: Psalm 103:12)*
- d. If God forgives us, how often are we to forgive others?** ~ *21 Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. Matthew 18:21-22*
- e. According to Romans 8:15-16, What happens to our relationship with God when we are forgiven?** ~ *15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.*

- 3. Not only did Jesus die for our sins, He rose from the dead! What does Jesus resurrection mean for you now and at the time of your death?** ~ *Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. John 14:19 (Read also: Romans 6:4-5, 1 Peter 1:3-4)*