

FOCUSING ON THE FUNDAMENTALS

How should I react to the death of
Jesus?

BIBLE ACCOUNTS OF THE DEATH OF JESUS

Matthew 27:32-56
Mark 15:21-41

Luke 23:26-49
John 19:17-37



BIBLE ACCOUNTS OF THE DEATH OF JESUS

- ◉ Matthew and Mark are closest in their accounts
- ◉ Matthew mentions an earthquake and opened graves
- ◉ Mark mentions Jesus was crucified at the third hour
- ◉ Luke mentions the penitent criminal
- ◉ John mentions Mary, the mother of Jesus & himself
- ◉ John refers specifically to 4 fulfilled prophecies

BIBLE ACCOUNTS OF THE DEATH OF JESUS

Only 5 fulfilled prophecies are mentioned specifically but there were many, e.g.:

- His hands and feet were **pierced** (Psalm 22:16)
- **He was numbered with the transgressors** (Isaiah 53:12)
- He made intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:12)
- **Lots were cast for His garments** (Psalm 22:18)
- Some watched Him (Psalm 22:17)
- He was mocked (Psalm 22:7,8)
- Some reproached Him, wagging their heads (Psalm 109:25)
- His acquaintances stood at a distance (Psalm 38:11)
- There was darkness from noon (Amos 8:9)
- He cried, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Psalm 22:1)
- He was given vinegar for **His thirst** (Psalm 69:21)
- He said, “Into Your hand I commit My spirit” (Psalm 31:5)
- **His bones were not broken** (Psalm 34:20)

BIBLE ACCOUNTS OF THE DEATH OF JESUS

Jesus Himself had spoken beforehand of what would happen to Him, e.g.:

“From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.” (Matthew 16:21)

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

“And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.’” (Luke 22:19,20)

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.” (John 10:11)

BIBLE ACCOUNTS OF THE DEATH OF JESUS

The words of Jesus on the cross:

- ⦿ “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke)
- ⦿ “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise” (Luke)
- ⦿ “Woman, behold your son!”, “Behold your mother!” (John)
- ⦿ “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew & Mark)
- ⦿ “I thirst!” (John)
- ⦿ “It is finished!” (John & reference in Matthew, Mark & Luke)
- ⦿ “Father, into Your hands, I commit My spirit”
(Luke & reference in Matthew & John)

REACTIONS TO THE DEATH OF JESUS BY THE WITNESSES

- ◉ Mockery/verbal abuse (soldiers, watchers, passers by, religious & civil leaders, criminal(s))
- ◉ Blasphemy (passers by, criminal)
- ◉ Compassion (one of those watching)
- ◉ Intrigue (some of those watching)
- ◉ Great fear (centurion & soldiers)
- ◉ Remorse (watchers)
- ◉ Mourning (women)
- ◉ Faith (criminal, centurion & possibly others, the apostle John)

REACTIONS TO THE DEATH OF JESUS TODAY (AFTER THE RESURRECTION)

- ◉ It never happened (Muslims)
- ◉ I don't care
- ◉ I don't know much about it
- ◉ I don't have a view
- ◉ Just one Jewish execution amongst many (Jews)
- ◉ The sad end of a good man
- ◉ A God of love will accept me anyway
- ◉ A sacrifice for the sins of mankind (John 1:29)
- ◉ A victory over Satan and death (Hebrews 2:14,15)
- ◉ God's way for me to be saved (John 3:17)

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What does the death of Jesus on a cross tell us about Him?
(Luke 22:42; John 14:31; John 17:4; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:8)
2. Why was it God's plan that Jesus should die?
(John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:22; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Peter 3:9)
3. Why is my reaction to the death of Jesus important?
(Ephesians 2:8,9; John 3:36)