

Examining the Event that Changed the World, THE CROSS!

Matthew 26: 36-46

Why did God allow His Son to die this way? Crucifixion --- suffocation

Remember the Lambs that covered the nakedness of Adam and Eve.

Remember the Lamb that Justified Abel before God.

Remember the Lamb with his head stuck in the thicket of Abraham.

Remember the Passover Lamb that gave his blood so the people in the marked house would not die.

Remember the angel's words as he talked to Mary in the Christmas story, "And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus, He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1: 31-33) and "And she shall bring forth a son and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1: 21)

Remember the words of John the Baptist, "Behold the lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." (John 1: 29)

It is clear that a lamb was needed to be slain to reverse the self-centered actions of Adam and Eve. A lamb, one of the most humble creatures had to be willing to commit the ultimate selfless act of death in order to justify selfish sinners. Therefore, it is clear that Jesus was going to become the lamb to commit the selfless act of death to reverse the curse of sin.

But why was the Lamb of God given in the way He was, Why the Crucifixion, why the trial, etc....

- Jesus gave the last supper and declared the picture of what it would take for us to become part of Him!
- Jesus Declared the Denial of the number 1 disciple, displaying the dangers of even those closest to Him.
- The Betrayal of the one who thought he knew more than Jesus. So self-driven he missed it all.
- The Garden of Gethsemane --- the place of the press
- The last display of power --- I AM
- The 3 Different Trials (vs 19, 22, 24) declared innocent all three times. A Religious Trial, and 2 Civil trials

- Barabbas --- Son of the Father --- two fold... He died on Mankind’s cross/ He died on the son of the Father’s Cross (vs 16)
- Not the Crowd’s Choice (vs 20)
- The statement by the crowd ---“let his blood be on us and on our Children”
- Stripped (vs 28)
- Cross carried by Simon of Cyrene (vs 32)
- Golgotha---Place of the Skull (vs 36) The Garden, Satan’s Trophy Room
- Gaul—Drug (vs 33)
- Thieves right and left (vs 38)
- Crown of Thorns — Abraham and Adam’s (Gen. 3: 18) “Thorns also and thistles shall it (the earth) bring forth to thee;
- Cross, a tree... notice this tree stands in the midst of a Garden (John 19: 41) “Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new sepulcher,”
- Money or Greed... Gambling at his feet
- Where was He crucified? Jerusalem, Mediterranean, the Middle of the world, the Middle of two Thieves, the Middle of Heaven and earth, between God and man...
- Sign over his Head declaring why he died... ”KING OF THE JEWS”
- In Three languages...Greek, Hebrew and Latin

Philosophy

Religion

Law

Shim

Ham

Japeth

Hebrew (Oriental) — Shim Greek (Romantic) — Ham Latin (Germanic) --- Japheth

This covers the whole human race!

- Darkness for 3 hours, until 3 in the afternoon, the evening sacrifice
- Forsaken by God
- Veil – rent from top to bottom
- Rocks – rent
- Died on His own --- no man takes My life I lay it down.
- Spear of cruelty, sure death, bride created (1 John 5: 6-8)

- Witnessed by thousands but buried by a few
- Borrowed Grave
- Guarded Grave, Sealed Grave
- Admitted Error made (vs 64)
- Make it as sure as YOU can — Pilate's words

It is clear that God put on a display of killing flesh (He gave up all fleshly desires), eyes (He became without desires in order to be the lamb) and pride was crucified... No Self died that day for us to become the lamb for us.

Jesus became the ultimate selfless lamb in order to crucify self so that He could erase the enemy called death and give those who would embrace Him the ability to be set free.

Jesus had to become man to overcome because man was entrusted with life without death, but lost it due to selfish self-worship. Therefore Jesus had to take on the form of a man and become a sacrifice to win back life without death. Therefore the resurrection is the prize for being the selfless sacrifice not only for Jesus but also to all those who will become one with Him!