

2022 Good Friday Did you know the four Gospels devote nearly a third of their length to the last week of Jesus' life. Matthew Mark, Luke and John saw death and resurrection as the central mystery of Jesus.

This narrative is so extensive and detailed and we in no way we can adequately explore it in one setting or for that matter many, many settings. So it is appropriate on Good Friday we survey some of the events recorded.

The cross has been his goal all along, the plan of salvation formed between the Father and the Son before the foundation or creation of the World.

Today we will see the unfolding of the Eternal covenant between God the Father and God the Son...played out in the trial and crucifixion of Jesus...

Let us pick up the narrative of Jesus' march to victory....the last night of his life on earth...

From an upstairs room in Jerusalem, Jesus and his 11 disciples...Judas having already left to commit his act of treason... rise from the Passover meal of roasted lamb, bitter herbs, bread and wine ...and head for the cool of the olive grove in a garden east of the city called Gethsemane...

Turn to **Matthew 26:36-46**

*MT 26:36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." ^{MT 26:39} Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, **may this cup be taken from me.** Yet not as I will, but as you will."*

- **Gethsemane --olive press to crush olives for oil. Peter James and John**

• **Jesus overcome with emotion...it is here..why?**

1. Separation from Father, The hardest part of the covenant between them. They both would experience it...
2. For He was made sin for us, which means he will be separated from Father. For Sin has no fellowship with the Father
3. **Jesus will experience for the first time what we have all experienced many times...a sense of God-forsakenness...during the hardest ordeal of his life...** Though his Father is ever present he would not feel that presence..for the first and last time ever, Feeling separate from God...feeling alone...isolated...at the worst time
4. Yet He willingly went to the cross ...no one took his life he laid it down.
5. No one could take this from him or kill him if they wanted to You see it is human nature to want to have someone by our side ...when we must experience a trial...go to a hospital to have an operation...when death is near...

And Jesus was no different...he asked his disciples to be near him and pray with him....he knew ...they would all abandon him...but what was unbearable for him...to experience death knowing he would be all alone...not even his father would be with him.... “Why have you forsaken me” would be his cry from the cross...

And his father would have to separate from his son...at his most desperate and needy time...oh the pain....

What father here would agree to abandon his child at their death...but that was their agreement for our sake.....**separation for a moment for our union forever...**

He is prepared to drink the cup the guilty should have. If Peter were praying he would not have given into the temptation. later

*Three times Jesus pleaded with the Father “Is there is any other way for man to be saved besides the cross” **When people say there are many ways to God...It’s interesting that Jesus and His Father didn’t know any.***

If there was another way to be saved then Jesus death was a cruel hoax. Without meaning, and both He and the Father could not be God because they would not have is known everything.

The scene is set and the commitment is confirmed... Pick up the action in John 18:2-14

*JN 18:2 Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas came to the grove, guiding **a detachment of soldiers** and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.*

Judas knew the place ...Jesus knew Judas Knew..._Jesus didn’t hide

- **Detachment 200+ soldiers also known as cohort**
- **Intent on arresting all 11 plus Jesus.**
- **Expecting resistance.... did not know him at all**

*JN 18:4 Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?" JN 18:5 "Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "I am he," Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.)⁶ When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. JN 18:7 Again he asked them, "Who is it you want?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." JN 18:8 "I told you that I am he," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for me, then let these men go."⁹ **This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."***

JN 18:10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

JN 18:11 Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?" ^{JN 18:12} Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him...

Verses 4-11 Jesus went out to meet them why? To protect his men so he would fulfill verse 9 and John 17:12

**1. showed them a glimpse of His glory and they fell down...scared them
2. Simon swipes at guard probably hit helmet and slides down to ear. Healing ear saved Peter's life.... They bound him...illegal only bind a suspect resisting.**

Then to Matthew 26:57-68

MT 26:57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. ⁵⁸ But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

MT 26:59 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹ and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.' "

MT 26:62 Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." MT 26:64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. (He stated who he was to the Religious authorities) "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the

Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

MT 26:65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. ⁶⁷ MT 26:67 Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?"

- **Home of Caiaphas... Caiaphas political appointee High Priest...their Puppet**
 - 1) **Illegal should be held in the counsel chamber**
 - 2) **At night ...Illegal**
 - 3) **Trial on Feast day ...illegal**
 - 4) **Judges looking for false witness...illegal... Sanhedrin**
 - 5) **When the witness couldn't agree the prisoner should have been released... Illegal**
 - 6) **Self incrimination...Illegal. they had their own type of fifth amendment**
 - 7) **High priest tears clothes...illegal not permitted to tear official robe Lev 21:10**
 - 8) **Guilty verdict could not be rendered on the same day as the trial...Illegal**
 - 9) **His sentence was pronounced in a home, but the law says it must be pronounced in the temple...illegal**
 - 10) **Use of violence during a trial went unopposed by the Judge. Illegal**
 - 11) **No civil authority to pronounce a death sentence...illegal**
 - 12) **And it wasn't Blasphemy ...It was the truth. He is the Christ the son of God Christ, the Son of God."**

On to the Roman trial Three Roman Trials 1)Before Pilate 2)Before Herod 3)Before Pilate Luke 23:1-26

LK 23:1 Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. ² And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Christ, a king."

Jews knew the Romans didn't care about their laws, and blasphemy was not a punishable crime... so they had to paint Jesus as a threat to overthrow the government.

- **Pilate a seasoned governor of Judea knew what was up.... so they present three charges that the romans would be concerned with.. 1) He subverts (overthrow)the nation 2) He opposes taxes 3)He claims He is a king**

LK 23:3 So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. (he stated who he was to the roman authorities) LK 23:4 Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

- **First verdict of Innocence there will be three more 14 and 22 also.**

LK 23:5 But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here." (teaching treason by sedition) LK 23:6 On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. ⁷ When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

- **Down from Ceasera on the coast of the Mediteranean... for the feast to help oversee any problems**
- **So he goes to Herod...He says nothing... Herod put John the Baptist to death he had silenced God's word to Him... Jesus had nothing more to say to him ...By sending him back ...proclaims his innocence but beats him anyway**

LK 23:13 Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵ Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶ I will therefore punish and release him."

Between Verse 16 and 17 beating ... John describes it

John 19:1 Then Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. ² The soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they put a purple robe on him. ³ “Hail! King of the Jews!” they mocked, as they slapped him across the face. ⁴ Pilate went outside again and said to the people, “I am going to bring him out to you now, but understand clearly that I find him not guilty.” ⁵ Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said, “Look, here is the man!”

Isaiah prophesied what the man would look like 600 years earlier

ISA 50: 6 I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

ISA 52:14 Just as there were many who were appalled at him-- his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness--

Pilate brings him back out....

John 19:6 When they saw him, the leading priests and Temple guards began shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” “Take him yourselves and crucify him,” Pilate said. “I find him not guilty.” ⁷ The Jewish leaders replied, “By our law he ought to die because he called himself the Son of God.”

- **So Pilate tries one more tactic... he offers to release a real bad guys a murderer and terrorist ...surely they would rather have Jesus released than this guy**

LK 23:18 With one voice they cried out, "Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!" ¹⁹ (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.) *LK 23:20* Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. ²¹ But they kept shouting, "Crucify him!"

Crucify him!" LK 23:22 For the third time he spoke to them: "Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him."

LK 23:23 But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. ²⁴ So Pilate decided to grant their demand. ²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

Video Barrabas

In the end an exasperated governor pronounces the harshest verdict permissible under Roman law...He surrenders to their will to control a riot and not anger his superior...The Caesar. **Crucify him... odd sentence for blasphemy the penalty is stoning!**

For 3+ years he did nothing but help, heal, and delivered people...and at his trial not one witness came forward in his defense... **Not one leader spoke out against the injustice of his trial...**

They led Him away...Crucifixion.... common so not explained by the Gospel writers.

Jesus asks his father to not hold this against as first degree murder...premeditated...but second degree...because they were ignorant ...they did not know what they were doing...

LK 23: 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

LK 23:35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God,

the Chosen One." LK 23:36 The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." LK 23:38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

- At Death's door.....

John 19:30 When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

He looked to heaven then bows his head...It is Finished...the reason why he came was completed...the penalty paid...eternal life can now be offered...

Lets take a minute to watch these last words...and meditate on them...[video last words](#)

and when we are done... in silence each individually receive communion in remembrance of what Jesus did for you.

As Jesus explained his mission

Communion celebrates what Jesus did...

Its Friday but Sunday is coming!!

END.

*LK 9:51 As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus **resolutely** set out for Jerusalem.*

Jesus resolutely set his face for Jerusalem, knowing the fate that awaits him.

JN 18:12 Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him ¹³ and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴ Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people.

Verses 11-14 They bound him...illegal only bind a suspect resisting.

Jesus to endure six trials three by the Jewish Leadership...three religious and Three by the Roman authorities ...civil

- **Annas still powerful rightly the High Priest**

Jews knew the Romans didn't care about their laws, and blasphemy was not a punishable crime... so they had to paint Jesus as an Insurrectionist, Someone wanting to overthrow the government.

Verses 5-12

Pass the Hot potato

- Herod governor of Galilee Jesus didn't answer why?
 - Down from Ceasera on the coast of the Mediterean... for the feast to help oversee any problems
 - Herod wanted a Magic show "Jesus Christ Superstar" Walk across my swimming pool.
- 1.** Herod put John the Baptist to death
 - 2.** silenced God's word to Him...
 - 3.** Jesus had nothing to say to him
 - 4.** By sending him back ...proclaims his innocence

Close... Verse 42-43

He looking at Jesus and Jesus looking at Him

Probably one of the tenderest moments in Scripture during the most horrible of circumstances. He looks at everyone the same way

Acts 2:21....everyone who calls on the name of the LORD **will be saved.**'

What amazes me is that when...when Jesus was at his most vulnerable...

He was weak, doomed and utterly alone does Jesus pronounce ...He is the Messiah...the one from God...a King from another Kingdom...

- When there is absolutely no chance of him starting a mega religion...offering fame glory and riches to his followers...
- When he has offered no defense ...and has no visible followers...
- Appearing anything but Kingly... Jesus asserts his Kingship...
- Kings have people fight and die for them...but this king dies for his people...calm and in control...
- **The sign of one who is at peace with the Father...serenity in the midst of trial...**
- **Today the sign of one who follows Jesus...Serenity in the midst of adversity....**

Luke 23 Verse 32 beginning then to verse 43

LK 23:32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.