

**Life in His Name – Part 47**  
**Crucified Christ - John 19:16b-27**  
Crosspoint – Dave Spooner – Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Intro:**

- This morning, we are again turning to John chapter nineteen as we continue to behold Jesus and understand what He endured for our sake because of His great love for us. It is important for us to know the story of what happened, and it is of more importance for us to understand what He did through what happened and how these events impact our lives personally and all creation collectively.
- What we are reading is sobering stuff, full of deep meaning and unsurpassed truth about the goodness and nature of God. If you understand these things, if these “seeds” of truth are planted in the soil of your soul, the result will be a deeper love, honor, and respect for Jesus, and a greater resolve to give yourself fully and joyfully to Him.
- We are picking up the story right after Jesus had been betrayed, abandoned, flogged, beaten, mocked, and rejected. At this point, He is a bloody mess, both externally and internally, as He bore the punishment of the sins of many.

**Jesus bore the sin of many**

**John 19:16-18 NIV**

**Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. 17 Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). 18 There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.**

- Crucifixion was a horrific way to die. This is what happens. After being severely beaten, you were forced to carry the cross beam, which weighed around one hundred pounds, and were paraded around the city, with your crimes written for all to read and all to see, as a deterrent to others.
- You were led just outside the city walls along a main entrance to the place of crucifixion. You were then laid out along this beam, and nails were driven into the space between the two main bones of your arms just under your wrists (this was considered a part of the hand), so the nails would hold.
- Then, this beam—with you attached—was hoisted up and secured to a pole already in the ground. Your feet were crossed over, one on top of the other, with a bend in the knees, and a spike was driven through both of your feet. The sign listing your crime was affixed to the top of the pole.
- You were hung up in the sun. You would have to push yourself up on the nails through your feet to grab a breath, then gravity, your enemy, pulled you back down as your lacerated back moved along the jagged wood. You would remain this way, fighting for each breath for hours and sometimes for days until your strength gave out, or your legs were broken, and you suffocated to death. It was, indeed, horrific. And Jesus, the King of glory, was hung between two criminals, two transgressors, as one of them.
- Hundreds of years, long before the Romans were a nation or in power, Isaiah the prophet foretold this event, not just what was going to happen, but why it was to happen. It is important for us to hear this and to understand the wisdom and justice and mercy of God.

**Isa 52:13-53:12 NIV**

**See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. 14 Just as there were many who were appalled at him— his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness— 15 so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.**

**53 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? 2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. 3 He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.**

**4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

**7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. 9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.**

**10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. 11 After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.**

**12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**

- This is a moving passage. “He bore the sin of many”— taking the wrath of God due us, becoming sin for us, taking our sin on himself—and “justified many.” The Lord’s will did prosper in His hand, and He will see His offspring and be honored and placed in the highest place. Understand who He is and what He did. Honor Him, love Him, and worship Him.

**Jesus is the King of the Jews**

**John 19:19-22 NIV**

**Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 20 Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. 21 The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’**

**but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”**

- Again, the charge against the one being crucified was written for all to read. In the case of Jesus, His “crime” was “the king of the Jews”. Pilate intentionally wrote it this way as a mocking, belittling, disparaging statement to all of the Jews, that the Romans are above and more powerful than the Jewish dogs, and even their “king” is no match for them. The chief priests knew full well what Pilate meant by this wording and sought to change it so that it was only Jesus who was condemned for claiming something that He was not.
- But the irony is that in truth, Jesus was indeed a King, and not just any King, The King above all kings. The wise men knew this from His birth and came looking for the “King of the Jews” (Matt. 2:2). The people proclaimed it as He rode into Jerusalem “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel” (John 12:13). Jesus acknowledged it before Pilate (John 18:22-37), and when Jesus returns, on His robe and on His thigh will be written the name “King of kings and Lord of lords” (Rev. 19:16).
- And here is the really good news—you become a “Jew,” a member of His Kingdom, when you believe in Him. For being a “Jew” in a kingdom sense is not a matter of genealogy or DNA; it is a matter of the heart through belief.

### **Rom 2:28-29 ESV**

**For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. <sup>29</sup> But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.**

- Jesus truly is the King of the Jews, and He is your King if you believe in Him and are “born again” by the Spirit into His Kingdom (see John 3). We are “grafted into” the chosen people (Rom 11:24-27).
- Another powerful point for us to realize is that in and through Jesus’s death, Scripture was fulfilled.

### **Jesus’s death fulfilled Scripture**

#### **John 19:23-24 NIV**

**When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. <sup>24</sup> “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, “They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.” So this is what the soldiers did.**

- Theologians estimate that around 300 Old Testament scriptures were fulfilled in, through and around the life of Jesus (the number differs by interpretation and tradition). This number is staggering, giving incredibly strong evidence for the truth of scripture and the identity of Jesus. John, in his accounting of Jesus, highlights many of them, especially ones that attribute divinity to Jesus.
- Here, John points out a specific fulfillment of Old Testament scripture that was outside the influence of Jesus and outside of the knowledge of those who fulfilled the scripture (the Roman soldiers). Doing so further highlights and gives evidence of the real identity of Jesus and the sovereignty of God.

- The passage fulfilled in this instance is found in Psalm 22, a “Messianic” psalm. Here is a portion of it:

**Ps 22:12-18 NIV**

**Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. 13 Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me. 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me. 15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.**

**16 Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet. 17 All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. 18 They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.**

- What was prophesied was fulfilled, and what was promised was completed. This should give you considerable confidence in scripture, and substantial support that Jesus is the Messiah. And also, it should strengthen your faith in the prophesies and promises of what is to come.
- Now, John places this scene in contrast to Jesus. While the soldiers were taking advantage of the situation for their own benefit, Jesus continued to take care of those around him. They were thinking about themselves; Jesus was thinking of others.

**Jesus cares for His own**

**John 19:25-27 NIV**

**Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” 27 and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.**

- Jesus, even from the cross, was thinking about the needs of others. In this case, with Joseph dead, the primary responsibility of taking care of Mary fell to Jesus, her eldest son. Jesus knew he was about to die and therefore, made sure to transfer her care to another.
- It is incredible that this is one of the things that Jesus was thinking about, even from the cross. I have just stepped on a nail a couple of times, and all I could think of was alleviating my pain. Not so, Jesus. Even being pierced through and with a myriad of pains, still in His right mind, He was taking care of the needs of those He was responsible for. This is incredible.
- He had a special relationship with His mother, there is no doubt. However, Jesus also counted those who “hear the word of God and do it” also as His mother and brothers (Luke 8:19-21). This is why I worded this point “Jesus cares for His own” not limiting it to “Jesus cares for His mother.” If Jesus can care for His own in His weakest and humblest state, surely, He can care for you in His glorified and exalted state. It is true that the “weakness of God is stronger than men” (I Cor. 1:25). And the promise remains, "My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). He often does so through His church, which is the body of Christ (See I Cor. 12:12-31).

**Conclusion**

- Next week, Lee will pick up the story of Jesus dying, being pierced, and buried (I will be officiating a wedding that many of us will be away for), and we will continue to “behold our King.”

- Remember to know and understand the great love of God as seen in the life of Jesus. Understand that He bore the sins of many, He is the King over all kings, that Scripture was fulfilled through Him, and that He cares for His own. Love Him, honor Him, and commit yourself wholeheartedly to Him, for He is worthy of it all.
- We now have an opportunity to acknowledge Him as our Savior and renew our commitment to and belief in Him through communion.

## **Communion**

## **Benediction**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. May the Grace and Mercy of Christ be with you this week (Heb 4:16).

## **Growth Group Questions**

- What strengthened your faith most from this passage?
- What about Jesus spoke to your heart?
- How can you engage your emotions and actions to honor Him?
- How can you rely on Him to meet your needs?