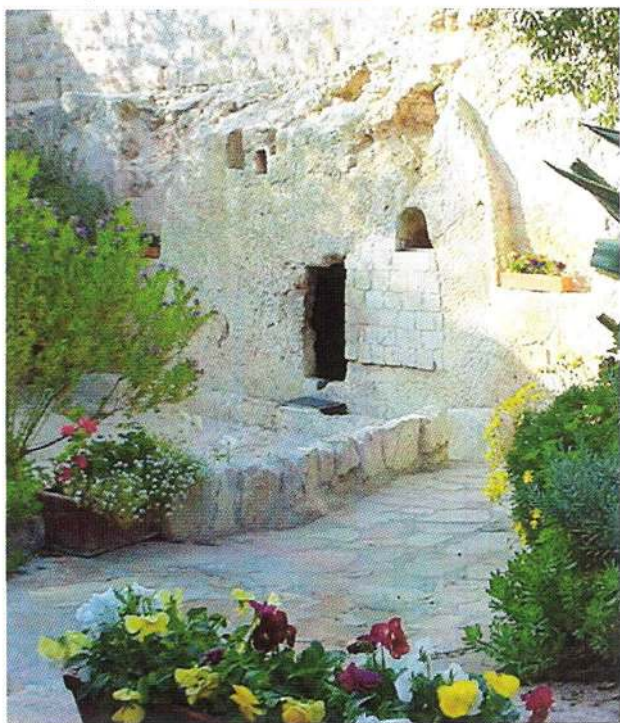


The
PASSION &
RESURRECTION

Of
Jesus Christ

THE WHOLE STORY



Of all the crucifixions of His era, why has the crucifixion of Jesus captured so much of the world's attention for nearly two thousand years? This tract outlines the whole story.

Who is Jesus?

Jesus is indeed a historical figure. Besides the Bible, history mentions him numerous times including *The Antiquities of the Jews* by Josephus. Jesus really did live and really was crucified.

Jesus, however, possesses a unique identity: He is the Son of God, the second person of the Godhead, co-equal with the Father. Jesus is, in fact, God in the flesh. John 1:1, 14, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.*

Belief in the deity of Jesus has been the cornerstone of the Christian faith throughout the centuries. Colossians 2:9, *For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.* In Philippians 2:6 *Jesus thought it not robbery to be equal with God.* Titus 2:13, *Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.* 1 Timothy 3:16, *God was manifest in the flesh.*

It was His claim to deity that ultimately led Jesus to His crucifixion. In John 10:33 the Jews sought His death, *because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.*

Who Killed Jesus?

The facts are simple:

- † **Judas**, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, betrayed His own Master. Mark 14:21, *woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed!*
- † **The Jews**, as we have already seen, condemned Him to death for His claim to deity.
- † **Pilate**, the Roman governor, obliged the Jews and had Jesus crucified. Mark 15:15, *And so Pilate, willing to content the people delivered Jesus to be crucified.*

However, no one really "took" Jesus' life; He gave it voluntarily. John 10:18, *No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself.*

But why did He do this? The answer is simple: He was God's perfect sacrifice for the sins of the world. John the Baptist exclaimed in John 1:29, *Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.* This, in essence, means **everyone played a part in the death of Jesus.** Hebrews 2:9, *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.*

What is the Passion of Christ All About?

Physically, Jesus suffered immensely in His passion. The Bible is very explicit in its description. Isaiah 53:5, *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.* Isaiah 50:6, *I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.* Isaiah 52:14, *his visage was so marred more than any man.*

More than His physical sufferings, though, Jesus suffered spiritually. He cried out in Matthew 27:46, *My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?* God turned His back on His own Son. But why? As Jesus hung on that cross, the Bible explains that God heaped on His Son the sins of the world. Isaiah 53:6, *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.* 1 Peter 2:24, *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree.* 1 Peter 3:18, *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*

The Bible explains why Jesus had to bear the sins of the world:

- † Everyone is a sinner. Romans 3:23, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*
- † The penalty of sin is death. Romans 6:23, *For the wages of sin is death.* This death includes spiritual death in the lake of fire.
- † Man is hopelessly lost and cannot save himself. Romans 5:6, *For when we were yet with out strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.*

Therefore, Jesus came into this world to pay our sin debt. Hebrews 9:26, *but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.* In order to do this, Jesus had to bleed and die. Hebrews 9:22, *and without shedding of blood is no remission.* Colossians 1:14, *In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.* Revelation 1:5, *Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.* When Jesus cried out on the cross, *It is finished,* **He meant the price for all mankind's sin had been paid in full!**

What Happened After Jesus' Passion?

After Jesus died, they laid Him in a borrowed tomb; but He did not stay there. Matthew tells the story in Matthew 28:5-6, *And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. **Jesus arose from the dead!***

Jesus' resurrection proved two things:

- † It proved that He was, indeed, the Son of God. Romans 1:4, *And declared to be the Son of God... by the resurrection from the dead.*
- † It proved that the justice of God was satisfied and the price He paid was sufficient. Romans 4:25, *Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.*

After His resurrection Jesus spent 40 days with His disciples. Acts 1:3, *To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.* Finally, Jesus ascended into heaven. Romans 8:34, *It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God.* One day Jesus will return to receive all of His children unto Himself. John 14:2, 3, *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.*

What Will You Do With Jesus?

Jesus has paid the sin debt for all mankind. What will you do with Him today? John 1:11-12, *He came unto his own, and his own received him not.2 But as many*

as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. Will you turn Him away like many, or will you receive Him as your very own personal Savior? Only those who are willing to trust Him alone will be saved. John 3:36, He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. Ephesians 2:8-9, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Will you claim Him as your Savior today? Ask Him to save you right now. Romans 10:13, For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. John 6:37, him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

What Should a Person Do After Trusting Christ as Savior?

- † Publicly profess Christ through baptism and get into a good Bible preaching church. Acts 2:41, 42, 47, *Then they that gladly received his word were baptized. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*
- † Read the Bible daily. 1 Peter 2:2, *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.*
- † Pray without ceasing. Luke 18:1, *men ought always to pray, and not to faint.*
- † Strive to live a holy and obedient life. 1 John 2:4, *He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*
- † Tell others about Jesus. Mark 16:15, *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*

Thank you for reading this tract. If we can help you further, please let us know. God bless you.

Pastor Dale Kidd