

“The Burial of Jesus”

Matthew 27:57–66

April 14, 2019

1. The Burial of Jesus (57–61)
 - a. Pilate Releases the Body of Jesus (57–58)
 - i. Joseph of Arimathea
 1. Disciple of Jesus (Matt 27:57; John 19:38)
 2. Member of the council who is looking for the kingdom of God (Mark 15:43)
 3. A good and righteous man who did not approve of the crucifixion (Luke 23:50–51)
 - ii. Pilate gives the body to Joseph
 1. Mark 15:44–45 says that Pilate is amazed that Jesus died so quickly
 - iii. As a member of the council, Joseph would have known Deut 21:22–23
 1. ²²And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, ²³his body shall not remain all night on the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for a hanged man is cursed by God. You shall not defile your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance. Deut 21:22–23
 2. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.” Galatians 3:13
 3. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - b. Joseph Buries Jesus (59–61)
 - i. Jesus is laid in a new tomb with a large stone
 - ii. Matthew is emphasizing that Jesus actually died
 1. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3
 2. ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 1 Cor 15:13–14
2. The Guards at the Tomb (62–66)
 - a. The Visit to Pilate (62–64)
 - i. Jesus has already spoken against the Pharisees and chief priests
 1. “When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.” Matthew 21:45
 - ii. Their concern was that Jesus would “deceive” the people
 1. “For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” Matthew 12:40
 - b. The Tomb is Sealed (65–66)
 - i. Pilate places the guards at the tomb and has it sealed