

John 19:19-33

19-20. Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: "**Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.**" Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and **it was written in Hebrew, Greek and Latin.**

- **Luke 23:38** "Now there was also an inscription (sign) above Him, _____ in _____, Latin, and _____, 'THIS IS THE _____ OF THE _____.'"

Definition: "It was written in HEBREW, GREEK and LATIN" - Greek was the common language of commerce, almost "universal" language of the day, similar to English today. Latin was for the Roman soldiers, and Hebrew was for the Jews, although most spoke Greek also.

21-22. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews', but, 'He said, 'I am the King of the Jews'" Pilate answered, "**What I have written, I have written.**"

- **Matthew 27:37** "And they put up over His head the accusation _____ against Him: THIS IS _____ THE _____ OF THE _____."
- **Matthew 2:1-2** "Now after _____ was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, _____ men from the East came to _____, saying, 'Where is He who has been born _____ of the _____? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to _____ Him.'"

Definition: "Do not write, 'The KING of the JEWS'" - The chief priests and Jewish leaders had threatened and blackmailed Pilate, so **he got his revenge on them** by putting this sign on Jesus' cross. The soldiers had sarcastically hailed Him "King of the Jews," but Pilate was absolutely serious. Pilate was railroaded into having Jesus crucified, even though he thought He was innocent, so he gave Jesus His correct title of "**King of the Jews**" for the whole world to see. Remember also, the fickle crowds had been hailing Jesus as the "**King of Israel**" just a few short days before, on what we call "Palm Sunday" when He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

- **John 12:12-13** "The next day a great _____ that had come to the feast, when they heard that _____ was coming to _____, took branches of _____ trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out, "HOSANNA! _____ is He who comes in the name of the Lord! The _____ of _____!"

23-24. Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, "**Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it,** whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, and **for My clothing they cast lots.**" Therefore the soldiers did these things.

- **Psalms 22:16-18** "For dogs have _____ Me; the assembly of the wicked has enclosed Me. They _____ My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They _____ My _____ among them, and for My clothing they _____."

Definition: "For My CLOTHING they CAST LOTS" - To cast lots means to gamble, as in throwing the dice. The soldiers didn't want to ruin the tunic by tearing it, so they gambled to see which one of them would keep it. Unknown to them, this was foretold and prophesied by King David in one of the "Messianic Psalms" (a Psalm that prophesies about the coming Messiah or Christ) about one thousand years before it happened. That's what it means by "that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." **The soldiers didn't KNOW they were fulfilling Old Testament prophecy**, but God saw it happening a thousand years before, and had it written down so that we might believe. Some skeptics and non-believers have tried to say that Jesus Himself arranged for certain prophecies to be fulfilled in His life, but how could He control what the soldiers did while He was on the cross?

25-27. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus **His mother**, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold you son!" Then He said to the disciple, **"Behold your mother!"** And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

- **Matthew 27:55-56** "And many _____ who followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, were there looking on from afar, among whom were _____, _____ the _____ of _____ and _____, and the mother of Zebedee's sons."
- **Mark 15:40-41** "There were also _____ looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, _____ the _____ of _____ the Less and of _____, and Salome, who also followed Him and ministered to Him when He was in Galilee; and _____ other _____ who came up with Him to Jerusalem."

Definition: "He said to the disciple, "BEHOLD your MOTHER!" - There were many women there at the crucifixion, and **each gospel writer mentions a few different ones by name**. John focuses on **Mary, the mother of Jesus**, because he is the disciple that Jesus asked to take care of her. When Jesus says, "Behold your mother!" He was giving her into the care of John. History tells us that Mary lived with the Apostle John, later moving to Ephesus, and that John took care of her for the rest of her life. Matthew and Mark only mention her as **Mary, the mother of James and Joses**, two of Jesus' half-brothers.

- **Matthew 13:55-56** "Is this not the _____ son? Is not His _____ called _____? And His _____, _____, Simon and Judas? And His _____, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?"
- **John 2:1-3** "On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the _____ of _____ was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the _____ of _____ said to Him, "They have no more wine."
- **John 2:4** "Jesus said to her, " _____, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

Definition: "The MOTHER of JESUS" - The emphasis here is on Mary's relationship to her son, Jesus. As Jesus begins His ministry, she must go from thinking of Him as her son, to thinking of Him as her Lord and Savior. Mary had to believe in Jesus as her Savior, and place her trust in Him, just as we do. The Bible does **NOT** give Mary any special qualities of being without sin, or being an intermediary through whom we must go to get to Jesus or to God the Father. **Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a sinner who needed salvation**, just like the rest of us. In Acts 1:13-15, we see her mentioned along with the other disciples of Jesus, and His half-brothers, her other

sons, as they waited in the upper room to receive the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

- **Acts 1:14** "These all continued with one accord in _____ and supplication, with the _____ and _____ the _____ of Jesus, and with His _____."

Definition: "WOMAN" - Jesus does not show His mother **any SPECIAL consideration, or reverence, or call her by any special TITLE** - no more than for any other woman. This contradicts what is taught about Mary by the Roman Catholic religion. However, Jesus did love and care for His mother. When He was on the cross, He asked the disciple John ("the disciple whom Jesus loved") to take care of His mother after His death. Since Jesus always kept ALL the commandments of His Father, He would certainly keep the commandment to "honor your father and mother."

- **John 2:12** "After this He went down to Capernaum, He, His _____, His _____, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days."

Definition: "His BROTHERS, and His DISCIPLES" - Mary and Joseph DID have other children after Jesus, and these would have been Jesus' HALF-brothers and HALF-sisters, since He was born of a virgin, and was NOT the biological son of Joseph (see Matthew 1:24-25, which contradicts the teaching of the Roman Catholic religion, which says that Mary remained a virgin all her life). Early in Jesus' ministry, **His brothers are mentioned separately from His DISCIPLES**, but later, His mother and brothers became Believers and disciples in the early church (see Acts 1:14). Of His brothers, the most well-known are Judas and James. His brother James later became the head of the early church in Jerusalem, and was the author of the book of James, and Judas (Judah in Hebrew) wrote the book of Jude.

- **Galatians 1:18-19** "Then after three years I went up to _____ to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other _____ except _____, the Lord's _____."

28-30. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, **He said, "IT IS FINISHED!"** And bowing His head, **He GAVE up His SPIRIT.**

- **Luke 23:46** "And when _____ had cried out with a loud voice, He said, '_____, into Your hands I _____ My _____.' And having said this, He breathed His last."
- **I Peter 2:24-25** "Who Himself bore (took away) our _____ in His own _____ on the tree (cross), that we, having died to sins, might _____ for _____ - by whose stripes (wounds) you were healed."
- **John 10:14-15** "I AM the _____; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I _____ My _____ for the sheep."

Definition: "IT IS FINISHED!" - The Greek word is "Tetelestai" which means literally, PAID IN FULL. It is the same word that would be used when someone paid a bill or paid off a debt of any kind - **paid in full. Jesus paid our SIN DEBT** as He hung on that cross, and when it was finished, He cried out "Paid in full!"

- **Matthew 27:50** "_____, when He had _____ out again with a _____ voice, _____ up His _____."

Definition: "He GAVE up His SPIRIT" - Jesus told His disciples, "I LAY DOWN My life for the sheep" - He was giving His life freely, not having it taken from Him. Jesus was not the innocent victim of a plot by the Pharisees, but **His death had been planned** by Himself, the Holy Spirit and the Father from before the foundation of the world. And because Jesus was also God in the flesh, He could GIVE UP His spirit at any time He chose to. You and I cannot **will ourselves to die at a moment's notice**, and just cause our spirit to leave our body in death. Jesus could and did do this - He GAVE up His spirit and died, willingly, and at the very moment that the FULL PRICE of our sin debt had been paid.

- **Acts 2:23** "Him (Jesus), being delivered by the determined _____ and _____ of _____, you have taken by lawless hands, have _____, and put to death...."
- **I Peter 1:18-20** "Knowing that you were not _____ with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious _____ of Christ, as of a _____ without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained (planned ahead of time) before the _____ of the _____, but was manifest in these last times for you."

31-33. Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for **that Sabbath was a high day**), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and **saw that He was ALREADY DEAD**, they did not break His legs.

- **Luke 23:54** "That _____ was the _____, and the _____ drew near."

Definition: " That Sabbath was a HIGH DAY" - A "high day" means a high holy day, which in this case was the night of the Passover Seder, when **the Passover meal would be PREPARED** and eaten, and every Jewish household was PREPARING for the Passover. According to Jewish law, they could not have dead bodies hanging around overnight, and especially on the holy day, during the "preparation" of the Passover. A person whose body was hanged on a tree (which crucifixion is basically the same thing, just a man-made "tree" - see I Peter 2:24) was considered to be cursed.

- **Deuteronomy 21:22-23** "And if a man has committed a sin worthy of death, and he is put to _____, and you _____ him on a _____, his _____ shall not _____ all _____ on the tree, but you shall surely bury him on the same day (for he who is hanged is cursed of God), so that you do not defile your land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance."
- **Galatians 3:13** "Christ has redeemed us from the _____ of the law, having become a _____ for us (for it is written, '_____ is everyone who is _____ on a _____.')"

Definition: "The soldiers came and BROKE the LEGS" - The soldiers would break the legs of the ones hanging on the crosses in order to hasten their deaths. Otherwise, it might take many hours or even days for a person to die from the actual crucifixion. With his legs broken, the one on the cross could no longer push himself up to breathe, and would soon die from asphyxiation.

- **Mark 15:44-45** "Pilate marveled (was surprised) that He was already _____; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been _____"

_____ for some time. And when he found out from the centurion, he granted the _____ to Joseph."