



“Death and Burial”

Luke 23:44-56 – In the sixth hour, Jesus breathed His last and died on the cross. There was darkness over all the earth and the veil of the temple was torn in two. The Roman centurion recognized who Jesus truly was. Joseph of Arimathea received Jesus’ body and, along with Nicodemus, buried Him in his own tomb.

Luke 23:44-49 – Jesus’ death on the cross and the people’s reactions.

1. (Verses 44-46) Jesus dies on the cross.

- a. There was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour: The darkness showed the agony of creation itself in the Creator’s suffering and death.
 - i. Historian Phlegon wrote of an eclipse and earthquake in the sixth hour.
 - ii. Jesus was crucified during Passover; an eclipse was impossible.
- b. The veil of the temple was torn in two: The tearing of the veil was very significant.

Matthew 27:51

- i. The purpose of the veil: The veil symbolized the holiness of God. **Exodus 26:33, Hebrews 9:3, Exodus 26:31, Hebrews 10:20**
- ii. The significance of the veil: The tearing signifies the end of the old rituals and the initiation of the new covenant. **Mark 15:38, Hebrews 9:24, Isaiah 53:5, 2 Corinthians 5:18**
- iii. The role of the High Priest: The High Priest was the only one who could enter the Holy of Holies to atone for the people’s sins. **Hebrews 4:14, Hebrews 7:27, Hebrews 8:1, Hebrews 9:12**
- iv. The New Covenant: The new covenant gives us a relationship with God where our sins are forgiven. **Jeremiah 31:31, Luke 22:20, Hebrews 9:15, Ephesians 2:13**
- v. Access to God: No more physical barriers; we can go to God directly. **1 Peter 2:9, Romans 5:2, Hebrews 10:19, John 14:6**
- vi. The symbolism of the veil: It shows how sin separates us from God and how Jesus’ sacrifice removes it. **2 Corinthians 3:16, Galatians 5:1, Hebrews 12:1, 1 John 1:9**
- vii. Our response to the veil: The veil calls us to be a testimony of God’s love and to share the Good News of Christ to everyone. **Colossians 3:1, Hebrews 10:22, James 4:8, Mark 16:15-16, Matthew 28:19-20**
- viii. The assurance we have: The veil is no longer a reminder of separation but a testimony of God’s love and acceptance. **John 10:28, Hebrews 10:23, 1 John 5:11, Romans 8:38-39**

- c. When Jesus cried out with a loud voice: Jesus cried something out in a loud voice, then spoke to the Father. The four Gospels all record this event. **Matthew 27:45-46**, **Mark 15:33-34**, **Luke 23:44-46**, **John 19:28-30**. We know from John that Jesus said, "*It is finished!*" Jesus had finished His eternal purpose of the cross.
 - i. Jesus carried the weight of all sin and satisfied the wrath of God for us.
 - ii. Jesus drank the cup of God's fury so we wouldn't have to.
 - iii. Jesus was in control of His destiny the whole time.
 - d. Father, into your hands I commend My spirit: No one took it from Him; He gave it up when His work was completed.
 - e. Having said this, He breathed His last: He yielded His spirit to God and He yielded His body to death on the cross and *breathed His last*.
2. **(Verses 47-49) The reaction of the bystanders at Jesus' death.**
- a. When the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God: When Jesus died on the cross, the centurion gave glory to God as he understood who Jesus was. **Mark 15:39**
 - i. With the events that happened at Jesus' death, he believed and glorified God.
 - ii. This is a picture for all who come to Jesus through the cross, fulfilling His promise in **John 12:32**.
 - b. The whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned: The crowd went home sadly, forgetting Jesus' promise to rise again.

Luke 23:50-56 – Jesus' burial in Joseph's tomb

- 1. **Who is Joseph?**
 - a. **Luke 23:50-51**
 - b. **John 19:39** – Nicodemus, the other secret disciple.
- 2. **Joseph goes to Pilate.**
 - a. **Luke 23:52**
 - b. **Our servanthood is important.**
 - c. **1 Corinthians 12:12**
 - i. We all have a part to play in the Church.
- 3. **The tomb hadn't been used before.**
 - a. **Luke 23:53**
 - b. 2 Kings 12:20-21 – The man and Elisha's bones.
- 4. **The Sabbath drew near.**
 - a. **Luke 23:54**
- 5. **The woman that followed Jesus.**
 - a. **Luke 23:55-56**
- 6. **In Closing.**
 - a. Jesus, as fully man, was truly dead.
 - b. He was placed in a tomb by Himself.
 - c. Promises and prophecies were fulfilled.
 - d. Don't be a secret follower, live **boldly** for Christ!