



Empowering People to Change the World

The Killing of Jesus Act 4

Steve Holt

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Announcements for this weekend:

Men's Movie Night Friday June 12th. 6pm doors open with pizza. 7pm Showing of Movie. Movie is a mystery until you come. PG13

"Father Son outdoor breakfast" over the fire. June 13th, 8-10am, breakfast, games, and spiritual input for fathers and sons. Sutherlands place (12520 Condor North, 80831)

"Shindig at the Sutherlands" for the whole family. July 18th, 4-8pm with blue grass music and games. Bring your own food and chairs. Outdoor worship service that night. (12520 Condor North, 80831)

Wholeheart Advance. Spiritual Boot Camp for Men! Only 85 spots and filling up. The discounted price is only until June 15th. Sign up online. Bring a battle buddy!

- Jesus has been condemned by the Jews, then condemned by the Romans
- He has stood before Caiphas and Annas, the two high priests
- He has been paraded before Herod
- Beaten by professional soldiers, mocked, spat upon, and jeered like some cheap vaudeville act
- Jesus has been scourged by the Romans—one of the most painful, torturous, hideous of all forms of punishment known to man

- Jesus is so weak from loss of blood and the beatings, that he cannot carry the beam of the cross and has to be helped
- Jesus is now nailed to a Roman cross between two robbers fulfilling the prophecy that "He was numbered with the transgressors"
- In Luke's account, probably the most detailed of all the gospel accounts,

Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."¹

- Even as Jesus is being condemned by men, he saves one who is willing to repent

Mark 15:33

Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.

- In the middle of the day, from noon till 3pm there was darkness across the land
- We know that in Matthew, an earthquake followed and the graves were opened

I find it interesting, that The Greek historian Phlegon mentions

¹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Lk 23:39–43). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

an eclipse in Jerusalem on November 24th, 29 CE, in his "History of the Olympiads," and says that it was accompanied by an earthquake. The Greek writer Phlegon reported that:

- *"In the fourth year of the 202nd Olympiad, there was an eclipse of the Sun which was greater than any known before and in the sixth hour of the day it became night; so that stars appeared in the heaven; and a great Earthquake that broke out in Bithynia destroyed the greatest part of Nicaea."*

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

- Jesus is becoming a curse for us! He is fulfilling the Deuteromic prophecy of "cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" (Gal 3:13) and thus is taking on a curse by breaking the law
- Jesus, who was sinless and perfect in every way, took on the curse of the law by being crucified, lifted up on the cross, taking upon himself all of our sin
- Jesus, though sinless, drew down the curse of God upon himself
- Ex. We must understand that God doesn't count transgressors the way man does. If a man is caught embezzling money, he is taken to court and found guilty for stealing money. Man's Law says that a man is not a thief until he steals, not a murderer until he kills, but God's Law is different. God's Law says that a man steals because he is a thief and he kills because he is a murderer in the heart

- God doesn't recognize varied shades of grey, or various shades of guilt. Any person who is not perfect in every way like God, is a transgressor, a sinner
- ***James writes, For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.***
- Thus, the righteous and hold Father must turn his face away from Jesus—for He has violated the Law—and has become a curse.
- Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, a liberal preacher of fifty years ago, once said, Jesus was mistaken when he cried out on the cross and that God the Father was never more near Christ than at the cross
- Such a denial shows a total failure to understand both the holiness of God, the sinfulness of sin, and the authority of Scripture
- Who put Christ to death? God the Father put Christ to death
- The fact that the Jews and Romans condemned Jesus to death is unimportant. God the Father put God the Son to death. This is what makes atonement for sin. Jesus took the sin we deserved upon Himself that we might become the righteousness of God
- The Bible says, ***For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.***²

Vs. 35

Some of those who stood by, when they heard *that*, said, "Look, He is calling for Elijah!" Then someone ran and filled a sponge

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (2 Co 5:21). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

full of sour wine, put *it* on a reed, and offered *it* to Him to drink, saying, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down." And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

- First, the veil of the Temple was torn from top to bottom—no human could have done this
- This was not an act of man, but an act of God—God the Father put God the Son to death, God ripped the curtain open!
- The veil was a thick curtain that separated the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies
 - The curtain was about 60 feet in height, 30 feet in width and 4 inches thick.
- The First Cataclysmic Shift was that man now had access to God—His presence, intimacy with the Creator of the Universe
- One no longer had to have a Priest as the Intermediator between God and Man
- Jesus has ended the sacrificial religious system that required the Temple and animal sacrifices
- The death of Christ, the very moment of His death, ended religion as it had been known and gave all of us—rich or poor, far or near, whatever our color, wherever our nation, intimate access into the heart of God
- You can know God, you can experience Christ now! He is Your Lord if you open your heart up to Him

The Bible says, ***And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.***³

- This is a key passage in understanding the power of the cross!
- Satan has placed accusations against us! Satan has the right to accuse and remind us of our past sin if we haven't had the handwriting wiped out
- At the cross, the curse was broken, the requirements for holiness based on your efforts, the Law, has been taken out of the way
- The satanic writings have been nailed to the cross with Jesus. Satan and demons have been disarmed

Vs 39

So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, "Truly this Man was the Son of God!"

- The first Gentile acknowledging the Divinity of Christ! What a fitting end to the crucifixion of Christ—who will have his message preached to the whole world and it all begins here, with a Gentile, non-Jewish, soldier confessing Christ

There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the Less and

³ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Col 2:13–15). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

of Joses, and Salome, who also followed Him and ministered to Him when He was in Galilee, and many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.

- The stories of the spirituality of women are legion. Many of the great missionaries and prayer warriors of the church have been women
- Ex. Saint Agnes of Assisi, assistant to St. Francis, Saint Theresa of Avila, Saint Catherine of Sienna, Lottie Moon, Maria Taylor, Amy Carmichael, Catherine Marshall, Ruth Bell Graham, Vonette Bright, and Shirely Dobson, who leads the National Day of Prayer

Vs. 42

Now when evening had come, because it was the Preparation Day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary *the mother* of Joses observed where He was laid.

- Joseph of Arimathea, probably a secret follower of Jesus, possibly believing the prophecies of Jesus that He would be raised up on the 3rd day, wants the body
- John says he was already a disciple of Jesus, Nicodemus joins the women and anoints the body
- “coming and taking courage” speaks of the man that

Joseph is.

- Jesus is wrapped in over 100 lbs of spices and wrappings. John writes, "a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about 100 pounds...and bound it in strips of linen"
- Jesus's body is laid in a rock fortress with a two ton rock rolled over the front

Conclusion:

- God the Father put God the Son to death
- There was and is no other payment for our sin! There is no other way for us to be forgiven of our sinful nature
- Jesus became a curse for us by breaking the Law and calling down the curse of God through being lifted up and hung on a tree
- By Christ being lifted up, his death broke the power of sin and the accusations of principalities and powers against us
- By Christ being lifted up, the scriptures say, "He will draw all men unto Himself"