

"When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, *It is finished*, He bowed His head and gave up His Spirit. (John 19:30)

I. God's Grace in the Face of Agony

- a. Even as He hung on the cross, Jesus continued to think of others.
 1. He prayed for His murderers. (Luke 23:34) He prophesied to a repentant thief. (Luke 23:43)
 2. A group of women, along with the Apostle John, were at the cross: **Mary**, the mother of Jesus; Salome, the mother of James and John; Mary, the wife of Clopas; and Mary Magdalene.
 3. *Dear woman, here is your son.* Jesus placed His mother in the loving care of John, His beloved disciple.
- b. "Wine vinegar" signifies a cheap *common* wine, the kind of drink that would be used by the poor. This was not the *gall* or "drugged wine" that was offered before the crucifixion.
- c. *Knowing that all was now finished* (v.28) Finally, the suffering of the Lord was complete. Jesus gave up His spirit and died.
- d. This is not the usual way of referring to death. John, an eyewitness seeks to emphasize that Jesus voluntarily decided to die, that was not found in the case when others were crucified.
 1. Jesus was in full control of the external and internal factors surrounding His death.
 2. The terminology used by John in a direct Greek translation describes Jesus' death as if He decided to go to sleep. (1 Thess. 4:14; 1 Cor 15:17-18)
- e. Jesus died with the cry of victory on His lips. This is not the moan of the defeated, because Jesus fully accomplished the work that He came to do. He fulfilled the Scriptures.

II. The Burial: Significant Insights

- a. There is scriptural significance in the fact that Jesus' bones were not broken and that His side was pierced. (Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12)
- b. According to Jewish law the dead body of an executed criminal was not to remain all night "on the tree," but was to be buried that same day. (Deut. 21:23)
 1. *The breaking of the legs* explained. (v.31-33) Why did the Roman soldier pierce Jesus' side? (v. 34)
- c. The Jews wanted the process of death accelerated and the bodies removed. This was the last action of "the Jews" recorded in John's Gospel.
- d. Ironically, *the Jews* did not want their land defiled by the dead, but they were not concerned that they themselves were defiled by their actions.
- e. At least two of the religious elite, Joseph and Nicodemus believed in Jesus. (v.38)
- f. Jesus' body was prepared for burial by anointing it with aromatic oils and spices and wrapping it in a linen cloth. (Mark 16:1; Luke 24:1; John 19:39)

III. Practical Application

- a. Five biblical truths regarding what Jesus accomplished on the cross for us.
 1. Jesus died for His enemies. He loved the unlovable. (Romans 5:7-8)
 2. His death purchased a people. The goal was not just the possibility of salvation, but to have a people for His own possession. (John 6:36, 39)
 3. Jesus died in your/my place. He accepted the punishment that we deserved. (1 Peter 2:24)
 4. His death defines love. It was a death that forgave sin and modeled love. (1 John 3:16)
 5. The death of Jesus reconciled us to God. Jesus's death enables us to have a joy-filled relationship with God. (1 Corinthians 1:21-22)