The Sacrifice of Jesus

John 19:16-42

Introduction:

I. An Act of the Government – 19:16-24

A. The Sentence – 19:16-18

﻿﻿“Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus ﻿﻿and led *Him* away. And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and ﻿﻿two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center.”

Note: Matthew tells us that Simon of Cyrene was forced to help Jesus carry the cross (15:21).

Jesus fulfilled two types or symbols:

1. Isaac, is a picture of Jesus sacrificial death. He carried the wood for his own sacrifice (Gen. 22:1-6)

2. The Bodies of the “sin-offering” animals were burned outside the gate. (See Heb. 13:11-13) – “Therefore Jesus also, that He might ﻿﻿sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate (v. 12).

B. The Sign – 19:19-22

1. How the Sign Read – 19:19-20

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“Now Pilate wrote a title and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was:

JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

ישו הנצרי מלך היהודים

ιησους ο ναζωραιος ο βασιλευς των ιουδαιων

Iesus Nazarenus rex Iudaeorum

“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 (the Aramaic vernacular), Greek (the world language), *and* Latin (Roman language).”

It sounds as though the Jews believed that sign. They are the ones who were in charge.

2. What the Jews Pleaded – 19:21

“Therefore 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.”

The banter had gone back and forth between The Jews and Pilate. Pilate had said:

18:38 – “I find no I find no fault in Him.”

19:5 – “Behold the Man!”

19:14 – Behold your King

19:15 - Shall I crucify your King?

Matt. 27:22 - “What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?”

Pilate has had enough!

3. What Pilate Said – 19:22

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“Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

They played Pilate like a banjo, until now. So, the sign stands!

C. The Soldiers – 19:23-24

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﻿﻿“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.”

At that time clothes were made by hand. Therefore, they were very expensive compared to our clothes. Part of the indignity of crucifixion was that the prisoner was crucified without clothes.

There were 4 soldiers assigned to each prisoner. Their pay consisted of taking the clothes of their prisoner and dividing them into equal parts. The four parts may have been: Sash – Sandals – Head covering – Robe

Except the tunic,

﻿“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.”* (Psa. 22:18) Therefore the soldiers did these things.” (24)

II. An Act of Grace – 19:25-27

A. Those Who Were Standing by the Cross – 19:25

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“Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the *wife* of ﻿﻿Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.”

How many women were there? 3 or 4? A case could be made for either. I prefer 3.

He called Mary “woman.” In his Gospel, He never calls her “mother” or “Mary.” You can imagine the anguish of Mary. It fulfilled the prophecy of Simeon. “A sword will pierce your own soul too” (Luke 2:35)

B. Those Who were Sent from the Cross – 19:26-27

“When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and ﻿﻿the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, ﻿﻿“Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her ﻿﻿to his own home.

Mary’s family was in Galilee and, as of now, unbelieving. From that time on John took care of her until her death.

III. An Act of Greatness – 19:28-30

A. The Lord Received the Sponge – 19:28-29

1. The Request – 19:28

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“After this, Jesus, ﻿﻿knowing that all things were now accomplished, ﻿﻿that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!”

The loss of blood, etc. caused Him to thirst.

2. The Response – 19:29

“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.

Why was it sitting there? Soldiers drank that mixture, so it was there for them and they shared it with Jesus.

B. The Lord Released His Spirit – 19:30

“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ﻿﻿“It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

Luke records that He said: Father, ﻿﻿*‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’*”

IV. An Act of God – 19:31-42

A. Divine Protection of the Lord’s Bones – 19:31-37

1. Sabbath – 19:31a ﻿

“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 body should not hang on a tree over night, certainly on the Sabbath and especially on this Sabbath (Deut. 21:23; quoted in Gal.3:13).

2. Sanhedrin – 19:31b

“the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away.”

He “Jews” in this context means the Sanhedrin. Breaking of the legs made it impossible for the man to push his body up in order to breathe and avoid suffocation.

3. Soldiers – 19:32

“Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.”

They were not yet dead.

4. Savior – 19:33

“But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.”

5. Spear – 19:34

“But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately ﻿﻿blood and water came out.”

This indicates that Jesus was a real human who died a real death. Possibly the spear struck the stomach and the heart, which accounted for the flow of water and blood.

6. Statement – 19:35

“And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is ﻿﻿true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may ﻿﻿believe.”

John was an eye-witness. We have no indication that Matthew and Mark and certainly Luke were eye-witnesses. John states that he was an eye-witness.

7. Scriptures – 19:36-37

“For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, ﻿﻿*“Not* one *of His bones shall be broken.”* ﻿And again another Scripture says, ‘They shall look on Him Whom they have pierced.”

Two specific prophecies or types are fulfilled:

1. Jesus, as the true Passover Lamb, did not have any of His bones . . . broken - “The bones of the sacrificial lamb shall not be broken.” Ex. 12:46

1. People in the future will look on Him Whom they pierced (Zech. 12:10).

B. Divine Provision for the Lord’s Body – 19:38-42

1. Intercessor – 19:38-39﻿

a. Joseph of Arimathea secures permission to bury the body of Jesus.

“After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, ﻿﻿for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; And Pilate gave *him* permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.”

He was rich, a member of the Sanhedrin and was well-known by Pilate. He was a disciple, but secretly. That is not ideal, but it is possible. John 3:16

b. He had a Willing Helper, Nicodemus – 19:39

“And ﻿﻿Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, (John 3) also came, bringing a mixture of ﻿﻿myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.”

He may have had it delivered to the site of the burial. They had to work fast in order to finish before the Sabbath began at Sunset.

2. Interment – 19:40-42

a. Embalmment – 19:40

“Then they took the body of Jesus, and ﻿﻿bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.”

His describes the process of embalming.

b. Entombment – 19:41-42

“Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So ﻿﻿there they laid Jesus, ﻿﻿because of the Jews’ Preparation *Day,* for the tomb was nearby.”

This tomb was the tomb Joseph of Arimathea, himself (Matt.27:60) Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah, the suffering Servant, though despised and rejected by men, would be with the rich in His death (Isa. 53:9).

* His burial is part of the Gospel (1 Cor. 15:4)
* His burial confirms His death;
* His death and prepares the way for His resurrection and His return.

c. Their Enthusiasm

These were secret believers. They were not open disciples of Jesus. One might say, “What good were they?” However, when the path got hard and dangerous, the open disciples (except or John) were not to be seen. These secret disciple stood up and finished the job.

Conclusion: