

Is Your King Steadfastness?

“Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. ¹⁷Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸There they crucified Him, and with Him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate. “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews’, but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.” ²²Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.” ²³When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴“Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled, which said, “They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.” So this is what the soldiers did. ²⁵Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” ²⁷and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. ²⁸Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” ²⁹A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. ³⁰When He had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit. ³¹Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down.” - John 19:16-31

In this Series, We Are Learning That...

1. Everyone has an ultimate king that they serve, and this king controls their thoughts and actions.
2. Many people who would call Jesus “Saviour” do not understand that He must also be king.

What Had Jesus Told His Followers About His Death?

“He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and after three days rise again.” - Mark 8:31
 “He said to them, “the Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill Him and after three days He will rise.” - Mark 9:31
 “Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. ³²He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. ³³On the third day He will rise again.” - Luke 18:31-33

Jesus’ enemies understood this!

“Sir,” they [the Jewish leaders] said, “we remember that while He was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’” - Matthew 27:63

But the disciples did not understand!

“They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.” - John 20:9

“Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.” - John 20:8

What Should John Have Seen?

1. Jesus was led to Golgotha (not dragged or driven). 19:16

“Then, therefore, he delivered Him up to them, that He may be crucified, and they took Jesus and **led** [Him] **away**.” - John 19:16 (Young’s Literal Translation)

“He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth: He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.” - Isaiah 53:7

2. Jesus was crucified. (19:18)

“A band of evil men has encircled me. They have pierced my hands and my feet.” - Psalm 22:16

3. Jesus was crucified with sinners. (19:18)

“Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” - Isaiah 53:12

(The Sign Above the Cross – Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews)

4. Soldiers divided His clothing and gambled for His robe. (19:23-24)

“They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.” - Psalm 22:18

5. The disciples had been scattered. (19:25)

“Awake, sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is close to me!” declares the LORD Almighty. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered....” - Zechariah 13:7
 “Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’” - Matthew 26:31

“But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home.” - John 16:32

6. Jesus cried out in thirst; Scriptures were fulfilled. (19:28)

“They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.” - Psalm 69:21

7. Not one of Jesus’ bones were broken. (19:33)

“...He protects all His bones, not one of them will be broken.” - Psalm 34:20

8. Jesus was pierced in the side. (19:34)

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, **the one they have pierced**, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.” - Zechariah 12:10

9. Jesus gave His life willingly.

“No one takes it from me. But I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.” - John 10:18

The Steadfastness / Loyalty of John

1. John was the only disciple near the cross and he was the one that Jesus trusted to care for His mother.

2. John wasn’t there because he believed, but because he was loyal. But his loyalty alone left him without salvation.

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