

Series: John

Title: Did Jesus Really Die?

Text: John 19:31-37

What joy it is to our hearts that Jesus who died on that cross, rose again on the third day. Jesus is alive. Amen?

Now, I want you to know, if you are visiting with us today, that we do not believe any of that liberal baloney about Jesus rising in our hearts, or, that it is the spirit of Jesus that lives today. NO WAY! We believe that Jesus really came back from the dead in a body. And we believe He is alive, right now. And we believe that one day he is going to come back to this planet in the same body in which He arose from the dead.

Dear friends, that is God's truth. In fact, the Bible says it even stronger than I have just said it. The Bible says, "if you don't believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ you are not saved. Some folks think they are Christians because they follow the teachings of Jesus. Or, they are a Christian if they go to church once in a while. LISTEN, DEAR FRIENDS, the Bible says that if you don't believe that Jesus arose from the dead in bodily form, you cannot be saved. That is how important the death and resurrection of Jesus is. And that is really the message of communion, which we will observe in a few moments.

So, that is what I want to share with you this mornowing. The wonderful truth that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. And on that third day He arose from the dead.

Take your Bibles, please, and turn with me to the Gospel of John. The Gospel of John chapter 19. John chapter 19 beginning with Vs. 31. Would you please stand for the reading of God's Word?

(Read John 19:31-37)

(Prayer)

(1B) Now, in verses 31 through 37, I would like you to notice the evidence that Christ was really dead. You say, “Obviously he died? While I stand here behind this pulpit and tell you that I believe the Bible when it says that Jesus died, I am fully aware that there is an tremendous attack in books and articles throughout America against the fact that Jesus ever died as it says in the Bible. Did you know that?

We set here in the comfort and the security of our faith, unaware of the fact that there’s a tremendous attack against the facts concerning the death of Jesus Christ. I am amazed at what people are saying. They say that Jesus never died. They say that he was drugged. And that the Bible teaches that he was drugged. He faked the whole thing. It was all a matter of a plot on the part of Jesus the disciples. This is a very popular view.

But, dear friends, the Bible gives us much evidence to prove that Jesus died. The Bible says that ~~he~~ was dead. And of course you know why people don’t want to believe that he died? It is ~~not simple~~ that the whole Christian message is built on that fact. But it is because of the resurrection. You see, at one time people would attack the evidence that Christians had for the resurrection. Such as the post resurrection appearances, the empty tomb, and the testimony of those who saw him. And they use to attack it that way.

*covered it*

*Testimony of the soldiers and the friends*

such as the foot resurrection appearances. The empty tomb. What others  
we say the Romans discussion about ~~it~~ they use to ~~it~~  
But, knowing now that the evidence is mounting that there was  
something there in the way of appearances, the attack is now changing.  
And now the critics are saying that he didn't die. And so he was actually  
around because he never really died. It is amazing what people try to do  
to change the truth.

But the evidence is clear that Jesus actually died. And I want to share  
the following reasons.

(1) First, the soldiers who broke the legs. Vs 32 and 33. They broke the  
legs of the first man and they ~~did~~ broke the legs of the second, but when  
they came to Jesus the Bible says, "when they saw that He was already dead,  
they did not break His legs."

Listen, I know one thing about Roman soldiers. They knew Roman crucifixion  
And they knew when <sup>The person on the cross was dead!</sup> they were dead. The Roman soldiers <sup>were</sup> very familiar with  
crucifixions, <sup>they</sup> clearly knew that <sup>Jesus</sup> he was dead. That is why they did not break  
his legs.

(2) And secondly, the spear that went into his side. This convinces me that  
Jesus was Dead. Vs 34 says "one of the soldiers ~~did~~ pierced His side with a  
spear, and immediately there came out blood and water."

That water sack around his heart was obviously broken. The heart was  
ruptured. And Jesus died of a broken heart. ..Literally...medically....  
physically.

Christ died on that cross. And the spear and what came out of the wound  
proves it. He was dead.

(3) Third, The witness of the one who experienced this crucifixion.  
Vs 35..."And he who has seen has borne witness, and his witness is true;  
and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe."

Now, who is he talking about? It is talking about John. John never names  
himself. John was there and saw the whole thing.

You know, John, is like a throne in the flesh to people who don't like to  
believe that Jesus actually died.

Do you know why? Because He was around. For over 60 years John was there telling the story. He was an eye witness. He was there at the cross. And He was, also, an eye witness to the resurrection. He had seen Jesus on many occasions after the resurrection. And that eye witness was a throne in the side of the Romans as well as the Jews. As John continued to give witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Look down at Vs 8 of Chapter 20..."Then entered in therefore the other disciple also, who had first come to the tomb"...NOW, FRIENDS, THAT IS TALKING ABOUT John. He is the other disciples in this passage. The first disciple is Peter. And John is the other disciple. And when John enters the tomb, did you notice what happened? Vs 8 says that he entered the tomb, "and he saw, and he believed." *John 20:30*

That is why early church historians call John the great theologian. Not Paul...Not Peter...But John. John was the outstanding teacher on the deity of Jesus Christ. He was an eye witness. *And he* wrote this fourth Gospel to prove the deity of Jesus Christ..... *John 20:30*

So, that is the evidence. Jesus really died on that cross. And on that third day, he rose from the dead.

(2 ) Now, secondly, I want you to understand that the Bible Predicted all of this. Chapter 19 verses 36 and 37 tells us that.

(1 ) And the first way in which we see this prediction was in the breaking of the bone's of Jesus. And this is sort of exciting ~~MF~~ when you understand that Jesus was fulfilling a type of the O.T. sacrificial lamb.

For example in Exodus chapter 12 verse 46, concerning the Passover lamb, we read, "It (the lamb) is to be eaten in a single house. And you are not to bring forth any of the flesh outside of the house, nor are you to break any bone of it."

Do you understand? Not only was this proof of his death, in the fact that the Roman soldiers did not break any bones, but Jesus was fulfilling the type of the Passover lamb. WHY? Because He is the lamb slain for our sins. NOT A BONE OF HIS BODY WAS BROKEN. Praise God.

But, dear friends, there is more ~~more~~ to that statement "not a ~~bone~~ bone of his body was broken'" then simply that He was fulfilling the type of the Passover lamb. Psalms 34 tells us that he was fulfilling the prediction of the coming Messiah, himself. ~~and God can't do it~~ This is wonderful. Let me share it with you. Psalms 34 verse 19.....(READ Vs 18-22) *Turn There, please*

In other words, the Psalm is talking about <sup>"</sup>divine protection of the Saints. But, yet, Jesus in wonderful fulfillment was protected divinely by God, fulfilling this passage so that not one of his bones was broken.

So, in this phrase "Not a bone of Him shall be broken" we see that Jesus is fulfilling a type of the Passover lamb. And from Psalms 34 we see the care of all believers.... *Praise God, Now Coming back to John 19*

(2B) Now, there is a second thing involved in the fulfillment of scripture. And this concerns the "piercing of his side by the spear. Look at Vs 37 of John 19. It says, "And again another Scripture says, 'THEY SHALL LOOK UPON HIM WHOM THEY PEIRCED."

Do you know what would be good for many of us? If I could pass around to you a Jewish commentary on these passages. And then have you read it. Boy, it would really open your eyes.

For example, This passage ~~which~~ quotes from Zechariah 12:10, the Jewish commentaries do not translate this word as "PIERCED." They simply translated the word as "wound" or "cut."

Zechariah 12:10 says .."And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced: and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over him, like the bitter weeping over a first born."

Now, we believe that is referring to Jesus. But the average Jewish commentary does not see the idea of "plercing". But, friends, there is no way to get around it. The Hebrew word means "Piercing or stabbing." The Bible says that the Messiah would be "pierced." And that they would look upon the one in whom they had pierced.

Now, Zechariah 12:10 is not just talking about the people at the crucifixion looking upon Jesus. Oh, no...it is talking about the second coming of Jesus. Let Put all this Together ~~WHY DO I SAY THAT?~~ Because Zephaniah 3:9 says that when

cut

Christ comes again the entire nation of Israel is going to be saved. ~~Paul~~ Paul says in Romans 11:26 "all Israel will be saved when the deliverer will come out of Zion and takes away their sin."

Do you remember

~~Now, please remember,~~ when John the Baptist was down at the Jordan River baptizing people for their sins, and Jesus came to him to be baptized. Do you remember what John said? When he saw Jesus he said, "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

You see,

John was calling Jesus the sacrificial lamb. The blood of Jesus that takes away sin. ~~But~~ But when Jesus comes again, when He returns to this earth, in power and great glory, and with all his saints with him, the Bible says that the entire nation of Israel will look upon Him whom they have pierced ~~will be saved...~~ HOW? Not simply because

and

they will look upon him whom they have pierced, but as Zechariah 12:10 says, the Holy Spirit will be poured out upon the people giving them the ability to believe. In fact, the whole world will look upon Jesus. The whole world will see those nail prints in his hands and feet. They will see that wound in his side. Revelation 1:7 says, "Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him."

Dear friends, I don't know what we will feel at that moment. But, perhaps Revelation chapter 4 expresses it best.

The 12 Tribes of the Oil  
and

There is a scene in Heaven. ~~And~~ 24 elders, which represents the church of Jesus Christ are around the throne. And as the lamb steps forth...in fact it says that He is the lamb slain, the lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of ~~David~~ David, as He steps forth to take the 7 sealed books and to open them in order to unleash the judgement of God upon the ~~earth~~ air, ~~the~~ He says that whole heavenly host breaks forth in song...All the saints of the ages will sing...

WORTHY IS THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN : ~~Worthy to receive~~ Worthy to receive glory and honor and power." is The Lamb of God Almighty.

And what do the 24 elders do?

The Bible says that they <sup>will</sup> cast their crowns at His feet and they sing:

"Worthy art thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created."

I want to tell you what that does to me. It convicts my heart of the little praise and the little adoration that comes forth from my life to my Lord and my saviour who was pierced for me. *And Rose Again From The Dead*

I believe that in that day when we see our saviour...and we see those wounds..and all heaven is ~~centered~~ centered in on Him...in that moment we will fully understand that He is <sup>the</sup> ~~my~~ saviour. And we <sup>will</sup> fall at his feet. And all the crowns and all the prizes that we hope to receive will be worthless, in the sight of His presence.

I believe that is the way it is going to happen, *Dear Friends*  
PRAISE GOD TO THE LAMB.

"Man of sorrows! what a name, For the Son of God who came,

Ruined sinners to reclaim! HALELUJAH, WHAT A SAVIOUR!

*And, Dear Friends, we will see him on that Day.*  
~~Not only will Israel look upon him: But I believe that all of us will~~

And he will have those wounds in His hands and in his side as an everlasting remembrance that God became man and dwelt amongst us. That he "emptied himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross." And Jesus will be an everlasting remainder of that *truth*

For He will have that body in which he arose again, with those wounds for ever. And I thank God that we have an everlasting revelation of God in human form. In the person of His <sup>manifested</sup> son, Jesus Christ.

When we get to heaven we will not have to look ~~at~~ around and ask where Jesus is. No sir! God has given us a physical manifestation of His presence. And I believe we are going to do what the Father desires. And that is to worship and honor the son. We are to going to see Him in all of his glory and remember that He is our ~~saviour~~ *resurrected savior*

And dear friends, don't you ever forget the cross and resurrection. I believe that the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the root and motivation for all Christian service. And I want you to know that the Bible teaches that our love....our service...our dedication...our giving..... everything we do..is related to the fact that at one moment of time, Jesus died on a cross for our sins and rose again so that we to might be saved.

We love one another....WHY?....Because He loved us.

We lay down our life for another brother or sister in Christ....WHY?

We give our brothers and sisters the world's goods....WHY?

We give our time and money to Jesus and His church...WHY?

Because Jesus died for the sins of the whole world. And on that third day He rose from the dead so that we to might have life and life more abundantly.

Dear friends, I hope that we shall never forget the cross. I hope that we shall never forget that great act of love. And act of love which ought to cause each one of us to say: "LORD! WHATEVER YOU WANT OF ME..WHATEVER YOU WANT IN MY LIFE.....I AM WILLING TO DO IT. NO MATTER WHAT THE COST.

Praise God for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without the death and resurrection of Jesus we could never experience forgiveness of sin and the wonderful joy of salvation.

*Do* You know...<sup>what</sup> the message of ~~Easter~~ <sup>The Passion is?</sup> REPENT OF YOUR SIN AND BE SAVED..OR.. PERISH. The Bible says that God loves us so much that He desires that non should perish, but that all would come to repentence. And I pray that you would come to repentence and be saved today. May the real meaning of the resurrection of Jesus be experience in your life today... *through, repentence and faith.*

Let Us Close in Prayer