

Matthew 27 **The Work of Salvation**
part 4

Main Service
10/17/2021

I. He was Crucified by the Crowd v 23, 33 - 38

hist: Crucifixion was a horrible way to die.

Marcus Licinius Crassus - was a Roman general who played a key role in transforming the Roman Republic into the Roman Empire. He led the Romans legions to victory in the 'Third Servile War' (73-71 BC). He ordered the crucifixion of 6,000 rebels along the Appian Way.

Marcus Cicero (first Century BC) wrote: 'it was the most cruel and horrifying death'.

Publius Tacitus (56-120 AD) called it a despicable death.

Constantine banned crucifixion in 321 AD (it was replaced with hanging).

v 34 *they gave him vinegar ... with gall (myrrh, Mk 15:23), he tasted ... would not drink*

Science: Myrrh - a gum resin extracted from a small, thorny tree (genus - *Commiphora*).

- used as a perfume, incense, medicine, and analgesic (when mixed with wine).

hist: The Romans often gave this 'spiked' wine drink before the cross was raised.

Jesus refused this drink because He refused to perform God's will in a stupor.

spir: We should willingly serve our Father in a *sober* (12x in NT) state. 1 Thes 5:6 & 8

doct: This was a fulfillment of prophecy (by heathen soldiers). **Psalm 69:21**

Dr. Peter Stoner - Chairman Dept. of Mathematics & Astronomy, Pasadena College
Chairman Dept. of Science, Westmont College

In his book *Science Speaks*, Dr. Stoner examined eight prophecies regarding Christ using mathematical compound probability.

"...We find that the chance that any man might have lived down to the present time and fulfilled all 8 prophecies is 1 in 100 quintillion (10 to the 17th power = 100,000,000,000,000,000).

Suppose we take that many silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas.

They will cover the entire state two feet deep.

Now mark one of the silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly, all over the state.

Then blindfold a man and tell him that he can travel as far as he wishes,
and he can pick up one silver dollar, but it must be the marked one.

Question: What chance would he have of picking the right one?

Answer: The same chance the prophets had of writing these 8 prophecies
and having them come true in any one man.

This means that the fulfillment of these 8 prophecies proves that
God inspired the writing of these prophecies to a definiteness of which
lacks only 1 chance in 100 quintillion of being exact."

{ N.B. It take only 1 chance in 10 to get a scientific study published. }

Good science should have predictive value; so they require 1 in 10, or 90% predictive.

God's Science is out of this world at 1 in 100 quintillion, or 99.9999999999999999%.

v 35 *they parted his garments, casting lots*

Psalm 22:18

hist: Roman soldiers were allowed to claim whatever clothes they wanted from the crucified victim. They stripped Jesus, then parted his garments and cast lots for his *vesture* (coat).

John 19:23-24, Luke 23:34

doct: Jesus stripped himself of his 'royal garb' to become a man. **Hebrews 2:14-15**

spir: We strip ourselves of manmade 'cap & gown' attire when we serve God.

1 Corinthians 2:4, Philippians 3:8

v 36 *sitting down there they watched him*

hist: The Roman soldiers were assigned the task of execution by crucifixion, and their job was not complete until the victim was dead. So they watched and waited.

1. God made sure that the soldiers fulfilled their task so their could never be any legitimate question about His Son's death.

2. Jesus hung there naked. It was a shameful sight for all to behold. **Hebrews 12:2**

spir: Sin strips man of his created dignity and makes him naked before God. Genesis 3:7

doct: When we view the entire scene of the cross (all 3 crosses),
and see ourselves belonging up there beside Jesus (as one of the malefactors),
and cry "Lord be merciful to me, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom"

Then, Jesus clothes us with His righteousness. **Isaiah 61:10**

v 37 *his accusation written*

hist: The Romans placed the criminals charges above his head to shame him, and both inform and warn the public.

God overruled the Jewish leaders and had the truth written above His Son's head.

" THIS IS JESUS of NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS " **John 19:19-22**

spir: This was the first 'tract' ever witnessed by mankind.

doct: He is : " KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS " **Revelation 19:16**

In Sum: God used some 'fine print' in the law to work our salvation. **Deuteronomy 21:23**

"Spiritual Irony" - Man took that which was meant for good (i.e. a tree - Deu 20:19),
and used it for evil.

God reversed the whole thing and turned the evil cross into a blessing.

Deuteronomy 23:5 Galatians 3:13 1 Peter 2:27

II. He was Rejected by Religion v 39 - 44

III. He was Forsaken by the Father v 45 - 56

references

- *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*, vol 1, Josh Mcdowell, 1992, Here's Life Publ.

- *Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible*, vol 1, KJV, 1991, Alpha-Omega Ministries