

Mark 15:42-47 – Jesus Endured being Buried for you

Brink, Calvin, TSK, Handfuls, Rienecker, GreekLexicon, Gill, Clarke, Geneva, Family, Trapp, Robertson, Vincent, PNT, Henry, INT, Alexander Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Because he loved you, Jesus **obeyed his Father throughout his life for you**, he was **betrayed for you**, **abandoned for you**, **denied for you**, **falsely accused for you**, **condemned by the religious leaders for you**, **tried and innocently condemned by civil leaders for you**, **endured mental and physical tortures before his crucifixion for you**, **endured the painful and shameful cross for you**, and **died for you**. But all these things were still not enough to satisfy his Father's anger against your sins – so bad your sins were! Jesus had to be buried for you. This is what you will hear about today

Our headings are:

Joseph asked for Jesus' body to bury it

Pilate gave Jesus' body to Joseph to bury

Mary watched Joseph bury Jesus' body

Our goals are: **That you will see that Jesus truly died for you and that you in turn will learn to sacrifice yourself for Jesus and his kingdom.**

Joseph asked for Jesus' body to bury it

42 Now when evening had come, because it was the **Preparation Day**, that is, the day before the Sabbath,

1. It was the Preparation Day, the day before the Sabbath, and the sun was about to set.

43 Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

2. So Joseph of Arimathea, a member of the Sanhedrin, seeing Jesus had died, asked Pilate for Jesus' body so he could bury it.

a. What do we know about Joseph? He was a good man, a rich man, a just man, and a secret follower of Jesus Christ.

Luke 23:50 Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, **a good and just man.**

John 19:38 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 one of those who **believed in Messiah coming to die for the sins of the world**, just like Simeon did.

Luke 2:25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

b. Why would Joseph want to bury the body of Jesus? As a Christian, knew how the Romans treated bodies of people they thought were criminals. The Romans would either toss the bodies in a common grave with other criminal bodies, or they would leave it on the cross until it was eaten by birds or rot and fell apart. (Jesus was crucified in Golgotha-Place of Skull.) And being a Jew, Joseph knew God did not want bodies hanging overnight on a cross. That was disrespectful.

3. It took courage for Joseph to do this.

Joseph would have been despised by the Jews for wanting to give a proper burial to a perceived troublemaker.

Joseph would have likely been opposed by his own family...for having this “wicked” man buried in their new family tomb.

Joseph’s reputation would have been tarnished, as the body of criminals could be given to their “friends” for burial. He could be accused of being a “friend” of an executed criminal.

44 Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time.

4. Pilate was surprised that Jesus was already dead and asked for confirmation before he gave the body to Joseph.

It was a surprise that Jesus had died so quickly. This quick death confirmed Jesus was likely tortured.

5. Lessons:

a. Jesus Christ’s burial from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning proved he died and he met the justice of God, justice that belonged to you, a rotten wicked sinner. That’s how bad you were!

b. Christ may have more secret believers (like Joseph) than you are aware of, just like during Elijah’s time. Elijah thought he was alone but the Lord had 7000 prophets who had not worshipped Baal. (Romans 11:4)

c. Would you be willing to do something that might embarrass you before friends (like visiting a brother who has attempted suicide)? Would you be willing to stand up and **publicly testify that Jesus is the only way to God?** Would you **self-identify as one who opposes the slaughter of God’s children by abortion?**

d. Riches should aid you in the worship of God; riches should not prevent you! It is sad that many ignore worship when they become rich.

Pilate gave Jesus body to Joseph to bury

45 So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

1. Having been given permission by Pilate to bury Jesus, Joseph of Arimathea buried him,

assisted by Nicodemus from John 3.

John 19:38 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. **39 And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.**
41 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. 42 So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

God worked in Pilate's heart to give Jesus' body to a stranger. With no friend claiming the body, Jesus should have been left on the cross.

46 Then he **bought fine linen**, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

2. Look at some more of the details of Joseph's burying of Jesus' body.

a. Joseph laid Jesus' body in a new tomb. So there could be **no mix-up about bodies after the resurrection**. No one could say it was someone else who was raised. Further, **a new tomb was more identifiable**. People would know exactly where Jesus' body was laid and could verify his resurrection.

b. Joseph's tomb was not far away but was nearby. No one could sneak in and take Jesus' body away.

c. Joseph covered Jesus' body with sweet preserving perfumes: myrrh and aloes. A hundred pounds of preserving agents showed how much he wanted to preserve Jesus' body. But the body was not properly embalmed as the Sabbath was about to begin and they could not complete the work. The women came with more spices after the Sabbath to complete the embalming.

c. Joseph wrapped Jesus' body in new, clean, fine linen cloth, something fit for someone who was pure.

Matthew 27:59 **When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth**, 60 and laid it in his new tomb which he had **hewn out of the rock**; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

3. But why wasn't Jew buried with the robbers?

a. The Bible said that he wouldn't be buried with the wicked but with the rich. So this was a fulfillment of biblical prophecy. This helped to prove who he was! This was remarkable because rich men often don't care about the poor.

Isaiah 53:9 And they made His grave with the wicked—But **with the rich at His death**, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.

b. The atonement had been paid to the Heavenly Father and accepted by him. Jesus could no longer be enrolled on the rolls of the wicked! He had to be buried differently!

c. If Jesus were thrown with the common criminal (or cremated) how would they have verified the resurrection?

3. After burying the Lord, Joseph rolled a very large stone in front of the tomb and sealed it.

(Three ladies who came later could not move it.) Pilate then set guards, at the request of the Jewish religious leaders (the harlot joined again with the beast), thinking that the disciples might want to steal his body and claim he was miraculously raised!

Christ's own murderers guarded his tomb so there could not no doubt no one could steal his body!

Matthew 27:65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

The Lord's resurrection was such a horrible event to the Jewish people. They tried to stop it, but couldn't.

4. Lessons:

a. Never stop confessing that Christ was killed and buried as there is no salvation - no Christianity without Christ's burial! (Those who criticize you for repeating the creeds likely have no idea of the necessity of Christ's burial.) Keeping saying it! They must hear it and accept it.

1Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: **that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried**, and that He rose again the third day...

b. Specifically, you were united in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. It means that you were in him when he died...you were spiritually joined with him. So your sins have all been paid! God has accepted you have been punished! What Jesus accomplished is now credited to you. This is why you don't die as a punishment for your sins!

c. You will be wrapped in white linen because of what Christ did and you'll then be declared pure!

Revelation 19:8 And to **her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright**, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Mary watched Joseph bury Jesus's body

47 And **Mary Magdalene** and **Mary the mother of Jesus** observed where He was laid.

1. The 2 ladies (Mary and Mary) watched so they were able to prove where Joseph buried Jesus' dead body.

They joined many other witnesses of Christ's burial: Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, the Jewish elder, chief priest, and scribes, and Pilate's guards.

2. Love for the Lord made them follow him from Galilee, to Jerusalem, to the cross, and to the grave!

What could one expect from a bride? She follows and supports the bridegroom even to the grave.

Song of Solomon 8:6 THE SHULAMITE TO HER BELOVED Set me as a seal upon your heart, As a seal upon your arm; **For love is as strong as death**, Jealousy as cruel as the grave; Its flames are flames of fire, A most vehement flame. 7 **Many waters cannot quench love**, Nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised.

3. This multiplicity of testimony of Christ's burial verified the truth: Jesus died for sinners!

Jesus did not escape to India like Muslims argue. He did not go to Kashmir in North India and have a family. He died. He really died. And to prove he really died he was buried for 3 days.

4. Lessons:

a. Jesus had no grave of his own because he had no sin of his own. Jesus had man's sin, so he had man's grave.

b. Are you following the Lord and being a witness of his death for sinners? No, the Lord **doesn't not want your tears for his death**. (It really is silly to dress in black on Good Friday like some do!) **He wants you to tell of his death so men** might learn he paid the full price for their sins.

Conclusion:

Joseph, a true believer, asked for and received the body of Christ from Pilate so he could bury him. And he did bury him. This proved Jesus died and atoned for man's sins. There was no other way to atone for man's sins.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Rejoice that you don't have to die for your sins. You never have to die for your sins! (*You ask me why I'm happy...I'll tell you why...it's because my sins are gone!*) Everyone can rejoice if he asks God for forgiveness.

2. Remember when Christ died for you he took away the terror of the grave from you. So don't try to die, but don't be afraid of death! The sting of death has been removed.

3. Respond by telling the world that they too can lose the fear of death (something non-Christians have) if they rely on Christ's death for sinners.

Finally: If you don't believe Jesus lived, died, was buried, and raised from the dead, you might be a "good" person but you will go to hell. You need to see and believe who Jesus was and what he did, in the place of sinners, so your sins can be forgiven.