

279 *The Crucified King Laid to Rest (Part 1)*

TEXT: John 19:31-37; MATTHEW 27:57-61

INTRODUCTION:

1. THE JEWS PROVED THEIR HYPOCRISY AGAIN BY DEMANDING THAT THE CRUCIFIED BODIES BE TAKEN DOWN BEFORE THE SABBATH (JOH 19:31-37).

a. The soldiers discovered that Jesus was dead (Joh 19:32-33).

b. One soldier made sure that Jesus was dead (Joh 19:34).

c. All this fulfilled prophetic Scripture (Joh 19:35-37)

2. JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA BEGGED PILATE FOR JESUS' BODY (27:57-58).

a. Who was Joseph of Arimathaea?

b. Pilate yielded to Joseph's plea (27:57-58).

3. APPLICATIONS:

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- (1) *We as Christ's disciples must learn that what sometimes looks like failure can be used for great good in God's sovereign hands.***

- (2) *We as Christ's disciples must learn that Jesus often has disciples in the most unlikely places—even in the camp of our enemies.***

- (3) *We as Christ's disciples must learn that following Christ is risky and sometimes fraught with danger.***

- (4) *We as Christ's disciples must learn to rest entirely upon the truth and authority of God's infallible and prophetic Word.***

- (5) *To unbelievers, I make this application: on the cross of Calvary, a fountain for sin and uncleanness was opened—flee to it!***

CONCLUSION: