

Com-Passion

Have you ever really thought about why “the Cross” is so pivotal in our relationship with Christ? More occurred there than just the crucifixion of our Lord. The Old Testament foretold of the crucifixion of Christ just as it had his birth, nearly 700 years earlier through the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12. Christ became sin, he who was sinless became sin (2-Cor 5:21) and carried all of the sin that had ever had been or ever would be, for all that believe in him. Not only is this emotional weight mind boggling. Close your eyes and think for a minute about a time you committed a sin or a wrong that you did and how that guilt may have ate you up from the inside out. How grueling that can be on your mind. Can you see it? Now take that guilt and multiply it by billions of sins resting on one man in the human form sent to know our anguish and pains. Now let’s take it one step further, at the same time our Lord had been beaten, battered, spat on, mocked, ridiculed and had almost every physical torture nameable done unto his physical body. “For you”

2 Corinthians 5:21

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God

The Suffering and Glory of the Servant

Isaiah

13 See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. **14** Just as there were many who were appalled at him-- his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness-- **15** so will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.

1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? **2** He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. **3** He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. **4** Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. **5** But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. **6** We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. **7** 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. **8** By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. **9** He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. **10** Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. **11** After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. **12** 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.

Mathew 27: 26-51

26 Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

27:27-31pp -- Mk 15:16-20

27 Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. **28** They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, **29** and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. **30** They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. **31** After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

The Crucifixion

27:33-44pp -- Mk 15:22-32; Lk 23:33-43; Jn 19:17-24

32 As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. **33** They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). **34** There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. **35** When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. **36** And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. **37** Above his head they placed the written charge against him: this is jesus, the king of the jews. **38** Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. **39** Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads **40** and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself ! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" **41** In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. **42** "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself ! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. **43** He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.' " **44** In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

The Death of Jesus

27:45-56pp -- Mk 15:33-41; Lk 23:44-49; Jn 19:29-30

45 From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. **46** About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "'Eloi, Eloi," "lama" "sabachthani?""--which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" **47** When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." **48** Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. **49** The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." **50** And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. **51** At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split

Movie Excerpts

Chapter 16 - 52:00-1:06 -14 min

Chapter 20 -1:13-1:19- 6 min

Chapter 24 -1:35-

He went to the “Cross” for you.....Will you pick up the “Cross” for him?

As the snow fell and covered the dark and dead wood line and ground that had not yet sprang to life yet. I watched as it was transformed and made beautiful by the blanket of white pureness. By this I was reminded of Jesus’ blood can make everything pure again. His blood covers all sin. (this was as I was putting this together in March 2015)

Isaiah 1:18 NIV "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Morning Glory!! (Short story of a morning while putting this together; reminder of gods good Grace)

Then I looked and saw a narrow path leading up my driveway as it passed my flag pole I was remind of freedom as I gazed at the flag. I then replaced the flag in my mind with the cross and gazed at the narrow path.

The Narrow and Wide Gates-13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. **14** But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Accept the perfect gift- 2 Cor 5:21; John 3:16 The perfect gift

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:21

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God

Believe and confess- Romans 10:9

9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

The Great Commission: Mathew 28

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of

the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Unity in the body of Christ Eph 4:12-13 and Eph 4:22-24

12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up **13** until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; **23** to be made new in the attitude of your minds; **24** and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.