

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

John 19:17-30

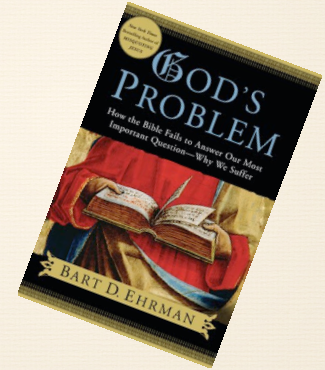
Lesson #64

The Crucifixion

03/12/2017

"I just began to lose it. It wasn't for lack of trying. But I just couldn't believe there was a God in charge of this mess."

Dr. Bart Ehrman

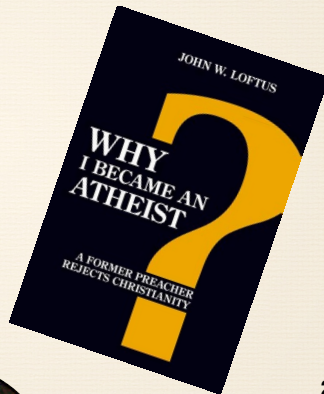


1

"I had too much to live with and not enough to live for."

"My expectations of faith, prayer, the church, & God were crushed."

Rev. John W. Loftus



2

Health is measured, not by a pain free life but rather in how we respond to suffering.

3

The question of God's silence in the face of human suffering is answered

not in our present deliverance from confusion and pain

but rather in a past event that challenges us to faith and faithfulness -

THE CROSS

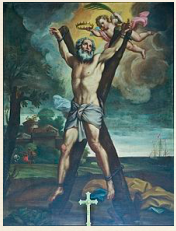
4

John 19

"17 They took Jesus therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. 18 There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between. 19 And Pilate wrote an inscription also, and put it on the cross. And it was written, "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS." 20 Therefore this inscription many of the Jews read, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and in Greek. 21 And so the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I am King of the Jews.'" 22 Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

5

The Cross of Christ



St. Andrew's Cross



Latin Cross



St. Anthony's Cross

6

Notes on Crucifixion

- Used by the Greeks and **perfected by the Romans**.
- **Purposed** to inflict the maximum pain and indignity on a person being punished.
- **Death** could come in from a few hours to several days as a result usually of asphyxiation or one of many other causes.
- **Cicero** called it "the most cruel and disgusting penalty".
- **Julius Paulus** called it "the worst of all capital punishments, ahead of burning, beheading, or being eaten by wild beasts".
- **Titus (Roman general)** at one point was crucifying 500 Jews a day.
- It has been reported that crucifixion was used in several cases against the **German** civil population of **East Prussia** when it was occupied by **Soviet** forces at the end of the **Second World War**.

7

The nature of Jesus' suffering

"No man can bear this."

Scourging

Crucifixion

- Physical, psychological, and social torture.

Shame for sin

- Bearing the sin of the world.

Isolation from God - Hell.

8

"²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that **all things had already been accomplished**, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I am thirsty."²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop, and brought it up to His mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, "**It is finished!**" And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit."

"all things" "it"

The redemptive work in fulfilling the demands of the Law, which condemned the human race.

9

The Crucifix



Popular in Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, and Eastern Orthodox denominations.

Rejected in Reformed denominations.

Exodus 20:4, Deuteronomy 5:8
"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **You shall not bow down to them or serve them.**"

10

1. This is the climactic event of Jesus' earthly ministry and the pivotal event of the whole Biblical narrative.

history is **HiStory**

John 1

"³ All things came into being through him, and apart from him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴ **In him was life, and the life was the light of men.**"

Revelation 22:13

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

11

1. This is the climactic event of Jesus' earthly ministry and the pivotal event of the whole Biblical narrative.

history is **HiStory**

The emphasis of the Gospels



12

Gospels

The Passion and Resurrection

birth, teaching, miracles, deeds of Jesus

The emphasis of the Epistles

Epistles

13

Lesson for us Our message of hope to the world

Old Testament

New Testament

Jews
Annual sacrifices
Promises
Physical Kingdom



Body of Christ
Final sacrifice
Fulfillment
Spiritual Kingdom

Israel's story (rebellion & renewal through redemption)
is the human story
that finds its meaning in the crucifixion of Jesus.

14

2. Jesus became the world's greatest SINNER when he died for us.

Matthew 27:46

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"

2 Corinthians 5:21

"He made him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."

2 Peter 2:24

"and he himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,"

Isaiah 53:12

"He was numbered with the transgressors"

15

Three great imputations

(the ascribing of something to someone so that it is accounted as true to the one ascribed).

The imputation of Adam's sin to all who are "in Adam" (his descendants).

Rom.5:17-19

"For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners,"

The imputation of the sin of all who are "in Adam" to Christ at the Cross.

2 Cor.5:21a

"He made him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf,"

The imputation of Christ's virtue to all who are "in Christ" by faith.

2 Cor.5:21b

"so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."

All who are "in Christ" by faith share the righteousness of Christ to the same extent and in the same way that Christ shared their sin.

16

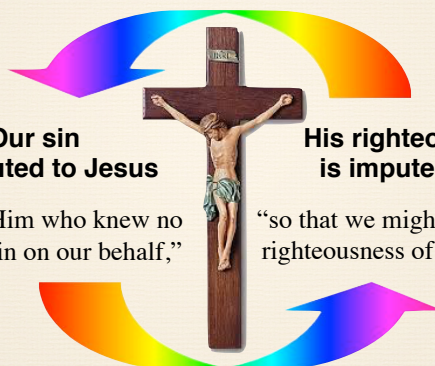
Lesson for us Our pardon from sin

Our sin is imputed to Jesus

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf,"

His righteousness is imputed to us

"so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him"



17

3. We are united with Christ's death so as to become living sacrifices.

Romans 6

"³ Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus **have been baptized into his death?** . . . ⁶ knowing this, that **our old self was crucified with him**, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin."

Romans 12:1

"Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice**, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship,"

18

Lesson for us We died to our old self in Christ.



Take your baptism seriously.

**It's no longer
all about you or me.**

We find our life (significance, security, serenity, satisfaction) as we die to our old self in sharing the cross of Christ,

and live as the body of Christ in this world.

19

4. The commemoration of his death is a central part of our worship.

1 Corinthians 10:16

"Is not the cup of blessing which we bless **a sharing in the blood of Christ?** Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ."



1 Corinthians 11:26

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death** until he comes."

20

Lesson for us Our worship is Christ centered and Cross conscious.

**When we worship we remember
the seriousness of our sin,
the cost of our redemption,
the power, of our position,
the nature of our hope
and the expectation of our calling.**

21

John R.W. Stott



"Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us, we have to see it as something done by us."

22

5. We are challenged to know him as we share his suffering.

Romans 8

"¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, **if indeed we suffer with Him** in order that we may also be glorified with Him. ¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

Philippians 3:10

"that I may know him and the power of his resurrection **and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death;**"

Philippians 1:21

"For to me, to live is Christ and **to die is gain,**"

23



Timothy Keller

“Look at Jesus. He is always weeping, a man of sorrows. Do you know why? Because he is perfect. When you are not absorbed in yourself, you can feel the sadness of the world.”

Walking with God through Pain and Suffering

24

Lesson for us **We are called to know him** **as we share in his suffering.**



The Persian Christian Monk (Jonas) in 327AD was asked to renounce his faith. When he refused, he was laid on a sharp stake and beaten with whips and rods. He still refused to yield so was scalded with hot pitch and hung over night suspended by one foot over a frozen pond. When asked if he had an uncomfortable night he replied:

“From the day I came into this world, I never remember a more peaceful night for I was wonderfully refreshed by the memory of the sufferings of Christ.”

Butler, Alban. 1866. The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and Other Principal Saints.

25

Health is measured,
not by a pain free life
but rather in how we
respond to suffering.

26

Elbert Hubbard

(American writer / philosopher)

“God will not look you over for medals, degrees, or diplomas, but for scars.”

Timothy Keller

“Suffering is unbearable if you aren’t certain that God is for you and with you.”

Walking with God through Pain and Suffering

Helen Keller

“The world is full of suffering,
it is also full of overcoming it.”

Elisabeth Elliot

“In my own life, I think I can honestly say that out of the deepest pain has come the strongest conviction of the presence of God and the love of God.”

27

***“I walked a mile with Pleasure
She chattered all the way;
But left me none the wiser
For all she had to say.***

***I walked a mile with Sorrow
And ne’er a word said she;
But oh, the things I learned from her
When Sorrow walked with me.”***

Robert Browning Hamilton

28