

## What is “Good” about Good Friday?

**<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.  
John 10:11 (NKJV)**

I. *At first glance, nothing looks “good” about “Good Friday” ...*

1. *Jesus, Who went about doing good is crucified, not like a common criminal, but like an extreme criminal, as crucifixion was reserved for the worst of the worst ...*

**<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. Acts 10:38 (NKJV)**

A. *Today we have lethal injection, no hanging, no beheading, no body of death –*

**<sup>24</sup> O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Romans 7:24 (NKJV)**

B. *Yet, Jesus who does nothing wrong is treated like the GREATEST of SINNERS –*

**<sup>21</sup> For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, ... 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**

2. *Not only did men forsake Him, but God did –*

**<sup>46</sup> And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Matthew 27:46 (NKJV)**

3. *He Who was God’s image, like no one else, had His image marred, like no one else –*

**<sup>1</sup> God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; <sup>3</sup> who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, Hebrews 1:1–3 (NKJV)**

**<sup>14</sup> Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; Isaiah 52:14 (NKJV)**

A. *The Romans (gentiles) mocked Him and beat Him -*

**<sup>19</sup> So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. <sup>2</sup> And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. <sup>3</sup> Then they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they struck Him with their hands. John 19:1–3 (NKJV)**

B. *The Jewish people yelled for His crucifixion –*

**<sup>6</sup> Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” John 19:6 (NKJV)**

C. *Though He was their true, best and God-given King, they denied Him -*

**<sup>13</sup>... Pilate ... said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ... <sup>15</sup> But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” <sup>16</sup> Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus and led Him away. John 19:13–16 (NKJV)**

II. Yet, Jesus is our “Good Shepherd” and He makes Good Friday “GOOD” –

<sup>10</sup> **The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.** <sup>11</sup> **“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. John 10:10–11 (NKJV)**

1. *The thief is Satan, he comes to steal and to kill and to destroy, and usually he does this by deceiving us, making us think “good” to be ‘evil” and “evil” to be “good” –*

<sup>20</sup> **Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Isaiah 5:20 (NKJV)**

2. *Not only does Satan tempt us to evil but our evil, deceitful hearts, are easily deceived –*

<sup>9</sup> **“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)**



3. *Jesus came to save us, even from our sin, even from ourselves –*

<sup>21</sup> **For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**

4. *He forgives us and cleanses us from sin –*

<sup>34</sup> **Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” ... Luke 23:34 A (NKJV)**

<sup>9</sup> **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NKJV)**

5. *He leads us to “abundant life” and gives us, eternal life –*

**... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> **and from Jesus Christ, ... To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, Revelation 1:5 (NKJV)**

*“What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus...” Robert Lowry*