

Matthew 27:32–54

Why Did Jesus Die & Rise Again?

April 24, 2011

Easter Sunday

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Better than Braveheart

Wallace: ...I AM William Wallace. And I see a whole army of my countrymen here in defiance of tyranny. You have come to fight as free men, and free men you are. What would you do without freedom? Will you fight?

Veteran soldier: Fight? Against that? No, we will run; and we will live.

Wallace: Aye, fight and you may die. Run and you'll live -- at least a while. And dying in your beds many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days from this day to that for one chance, just one chance to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives, but they'll never take our freedom!!!

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that someone *lay down his life* for his friends.

Key Idea

The death of Jesus was much more than the heroic death for a noble cause inspiring us to stand up and fight. Rather, it is a call to worship.

II. The Death of Jesus

A. Darkness

Matthew 27:45

Now from the *sixth hour* (noon) there was **darkness** over all the land until the *ninth hour* (3pm).

John 3:19

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the **darkness** rather than the light because their works were evil.

Nahum 1:8 (Cf. Matthew 8:12; 22:13; 25:30)

But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into **darkness**.

B. Forsaken!

Matthew 27:46

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*” that is, “***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***”

C. The Curtain Torn!

Matthew 27:51a

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ...

D. The Reaction of the Centurion

Matthew 27:51b–54

...And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²
The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴
When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “**Truly this was the Son of God!**”

III. The Resurrection of Jesus

A. He Trusts in God?!

Matthew 27:39–43

³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” ⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, ⁴² “He saved others;

he cannot save himself. He is 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 deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”

Luke 24:19–21 (On the Road to Emmaus)

¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But *we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel*. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

B. Jesus Made Some Amazing Claims

John 5:19–24

¹⁹ So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. ²¹ For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. ²² *The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,* ²³ that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Matthew 20:18–19 (Cf. Matthew 27:64)

¹⁸ “See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and

scribes, and they will condemn him to death ¹⁹ and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and *he will be raised on the third day.*”

IV. Application

Acts 10:37–43

³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be *judge of the living and the dead.* ⁴³ To him *all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.*”

“Every single thing [in the Bible] is not about what you must do in order to make yourself right with God, but what [Jesus] has done to make you absolutely right with God.” – **Tim Keller**

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