

## John 19:17-42 – The Crucifixion

Pilate proclaimed three times publicly that Jesus was innocent. Pilate had a choice. He could save himself or he could save an innocent man from being put to death. Pilate chose to save himself and send an innocent man to death.

**Read John 19:17-27.**

Where was Jesus crucified? (19:17)

Who was crucified with Jesus? (19:18)

Pilate put an inscription on the cross. What did the inscription say? What languages was it in? What was the significance of this inscription? What did the chief priests think about the inscription? How did Pilate respond to their request to change the inscription? (19:19-22)

What did the soldiers do with Jesus' clothes? What scripture did their actions fulfill? See Psalm 22:18. (19:23-24)

John mentions some people who were by the cross of Jesus. Who were they? What does Jesus say to his mother and then to the beloved disciple? What is the significance of this? (19:25-27)

**Read John 19:28-37.**

In verse 28, John stated that Jesus knew that all things were already completed. What was completed? What is the significance of this statement? Why did Jesus say, "I thirst"? What is the significance of Jesus saying that he was thirsty? What scripture did this fulfill? See Psalm 22:15 and Psalm 69:21. (19:29-29)

After Jesus received the sour wine (or vinegar), he said “It is finished”? What is the significance of this statement? What was complete? (19:30)

How did Jesus die? See John 10:17-18. (19:30)

The Jewish leaders wanted Pilate to have the soldiers break the legs of those who were crucified. Why did they want Pilate to have this done? (19:31)

The soldiers broke the legs of the two men who were crucified with Jesus. What happened when they went to break Jesus’ legs? How did this fulfill scripture? See Exodus 12:46, Numbers 9:12, Psalm 34:20, Zechariah 12:10. What effect did this have on John? What effect did John want this to have on those who read his witness? (19:32-37)

**Read John 19:38-42.**

Who was Joseph of Arimathea? What did he ask Pilate to do? Why do you think he was willing to be associated with Jesus in his death? See Isaiah 53:9. John mentioned Nicodemus for the third time. What significance is there to Nicodemus helping bury Jesus? (19:38-39)

How did they prepare the body of Jesus? (19:39-40)

Where did they lay the body of Jesus? (19:41-42)

John did not mention the gruesome details of crucifixion. He did not focus on Jesus’ pain and suffering. Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 are far more descriptive of Jesus’ suffering than John’s description. Why do you think that is? Do you think there are times when the suffering of Jesus is focused on more than the work which Jesus accomplished on the cross and what that work means?