

Why Did Jesus Choose to Die?

Mark 15:1-15

Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. ²"Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate. "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. ³The chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of." ⁵But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed. ⁶Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. ⁷A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. ⁸The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. ⁹"Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, ¹⁰knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. ¹²"What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. ¹³"Crucify him!" they shouted. ¹⁴"Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ¹⁵Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

- Christ died to _____ the horrific _____ of sin.
 - From a distance the cross looks attractive; up close it is _____ and _____.
 - _____ always carries a larger price tag than you ever dreamed possible.
 - _____ has always tried to _____ sin.
 - The _____ is a graphic warning for the consequences of _____.
 - We will never _____ as God calls us to walk until we _____ sin as God sees sin.
- Christ died to _____ the amazing _____ of God.
 - _____ and _____ always require a sacrifice.

- We will never appreciate God's _____ without first understanding his _____.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 53:5

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.

II Corinthians 5:21

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

John 10:11,18a

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord."

Don't ever think you are not loved or you are not valuable; the Son of God stepped out of heaven and volunteered to give his life for yours.

- Christ died to _____ the only _____ to salvation.

- We will either _____ our placard or let Christ _____ our placard.

Christianity doesn't merely offer a moral code to live by, it offers worship of the unique God-man, Jesus Christ, who, through the power of the Cross, made atonement for your sin.

Matthew 26:39

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Acts 4:12

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Christ had to die because it was the only way that you might have a chance to live.