

The Fourfold Gospel

CXXXII - CXXXIV

Judas commits suicide, Crucifixion, Jesus buried,
Resurrection, Appearances 1&2 of Christ Arisen

Remorse and suicide of Judas

- Matthew 27:3-10
 - Who's 30 pieces of silver was this?
 - Judas' – it was the price paid for betrayal. Just because he tossed it away does not mean it exchanged hands again. The rulers used it to purchase the potters field, but as it is written, the field was actually purchased by Judas.
 - What was the dilemma of the rulers about the 30 pieces of silver?
 - The silver was “blood-money”
 - Isn't it curious that the rulers could take money out of the treasury to pay a traitor, but the same money could not be put in the treasury?
 - Where is the scripture forbidding blood money donation to the temple treasury?
 - There isn't one – that was the tradition of the elders, not Mosaic law
 - What scripture is quoted from in Jeremiah?
 - There isn't one recorded – maybe Zechariah 11:12-13 - see commentators notes

Remorse and suicide of Judas

- Acts 1:18-19
 - Which writer gives us this extra information about what happened to Judas, and why the field is called the field of blood?
 - Luke
 - This does not contradict the reason the field was called “the field of blood”
 - Matthew tells us it was because the rulers used “blood-money” to buy it
 - Luke tells us it was because of Judas suicide and spilling of his own blood onto the field that the the field was named “Akeldama” or “The field of blood”
 - Both reasons are accurate and reinforce the prophecies of this field.

The Crucifixion

- One the way to the cross
 - Matt 27:31-34, Mark 15:20-23, Luke 23:26-33, John 19:17
 - How could the Romans force Simon to carry Jesus cross?
 - The Roman Empire legally allowed its governmental couriers to impress both men and horses to help him forward. Soldiers used this law regularly to require subjugated citizens to carry their load for up to 1 mile.
 - What was Jesus admonishment to the women in Jerusalem a foreshadowing of?
 - The coming fall of Jerusalem to the Romans
 - What does the statement “For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?” mean?
 - If the overwhelming persecution of Rome is so consuming that, even though Jesus was innocent as pronounced by Pilate, He will suffer this fate, what will that persecution look like when it comes upon the dry, guilty, rebellious city of Jerusalem and its inhabitants?
 - Why did Jesus refuse the wine mixed with gall/myrrh?
 - It was His Father’s will that He was to suffer and Jesus refused to go to the cross in a drugged, semi-unconscious condition.

The Crucifixion

- Jesus crucified and reviled.
 - Matthew 27:35-44, Mark 15:24-32, Luke 23:33-43, John 19:18-27
 - What was the significance of crucifying robbers on either side of Jesus?
 - This was to heighten His shame and indignity. Although Pilate had no personal ill will towards Jesus, he wished to show contempt for Judah's King.
 - What was the significance of Jesus' coat being "without seam"?
 - The tunic or undergarment of the lay person was normally two pieces which were fastened at the shoulder by clasps. But the tunic of the high priest was an exception being woven without seam. (as per Josephus ANT 3:7) In dividing His garments they found a suggestion of His high priesthood.
 - Did Pilate believe Jesus was "THE KING OF THE JEWS"?
 - No. Pilate was politically motivated and the gospel does not tell us he was a believer unlike the centurion, Cornelius or so many other gentiles mentioned as believers. His purpose seems to be to clear any issues with his boss, Caesar and to retaliate against the Jews for forcing him to kill Jesus.

The Crucifixion

- Matthew 27:45-56, Mark 15:33-41, Luke 23:44-49, John 19:28-30
 - Darkness, and other strange events, Jesus gives up His spirit
 - Was the darkness caused by a solar eclipse (a natural event)?
 - The Jewish calendar was based on the lunar calendar and the moon was always full on the first day of Passover, making a solar eclipse impossible because the moon must be between the earth and the sun for an eclipse.
 - Did Jesus die from the damage to His body?
 - No. This as in all things He did was under His control as well. Jesus controlled the separation of His spirit from His body and determined the time at which that would happen. He also controlled the resurrection of Himself,
 - What was the reaction of the people to all of these signs and wonders?
 - A complete change in sentiment from what the rulers had driven them to. This is most likely the attitude that led to so many people coming into the kingdom on Pentecost.

The Crucifixion

- Matthew 27:57-66, Mark 15:42-47, Luke 23:5—56, John 19:31-42
 - What is the symbolism of Jesus piercing by the soldier issuing forth both water and blood?
 - Since we know that Jesus did not die of natural causes, but gave up His own Spirit, the idea that John gives such specifics about this scene shows us that Jesus had accomplished His mission. Sins are visibly and physically washed away by water, and invisibly and spiritually washed away by blood.
 - What was the motivation of the rulers to ask Pilate to post soldiers at Jesus grave?
 - To avoid the possible removal of the body to attest to a fake resurrection by Jesus disciples
 - What did the rulers do to make sure the tomb wasn't disturbed?
 - They sealed it – by drawing a string across it and adhering the ends in wax or clay. If the seals were broken it would show.

Resurrection

- Matthew 28:1-8, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24 1-8, John 20:1-10
 - Which of the women who first saw the open tomb ran to tell the disciples of the resurrection?
 - Mary of Magdalene
 - What happened to the Roman guards?
 - Fear of the angels and the earthquake and the signs and wonders of the resurrection led them to become as dead men
 - What is the significance of the napkin rolled up in place by itself?
 - This was not an accident, where the earthquake caused his body to roll off the sepulcher ledge, but it was rolled up and placed apart from the linen wrappings.
 - Where were the disciples to meet Jesus?
 - Galilee as He had told them.

Final week

- Week 25 - Guards report to the Jewish rulers, Appearances 3-8 of Christ Arisen, The Great Commission, 9th and 10th appearances of Jesus, The Ascension (CXXXV-CXLIV)