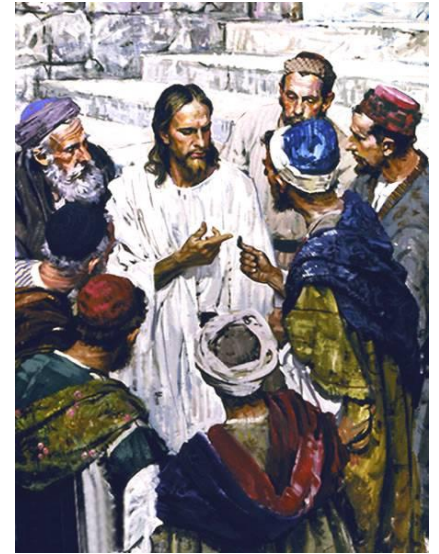


THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Why Did Jesus Die?

- Jesus predicts his own death – he recognizes where things are going.
- From the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he faces opposition and threats against his life.
- Why would a man of peace and non-violence be put to death?
Many religious leaders...
 - didn't like Jesus' association with the outcasts and sinners.
 - did not like Jesus' interpretation of the Law.
 - considered it blasphemy for Jesus to speak with the authority of God and to speak of God on intimate terms.
 - saw Jesus as a threat to the religious and political establishment.
- These religious leaders convinced the Romans that Jesus was a threat to the social order and that he must be removed.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

How Did Jesus Die?

- We refer to the experience of Jesus' suffering and death as his *Passion*.
- The high priest Caiaphas concluded that it was better for one man to die than for a whole nation to suffer.
- Judas Iscariot arranged to have Jesus arrested by the Jewish guards.
- The Jewish Sanhedrin holds a "trial" and finds Jesus guilty of blasphemy, punishable by death.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

How Did Jesus Die?

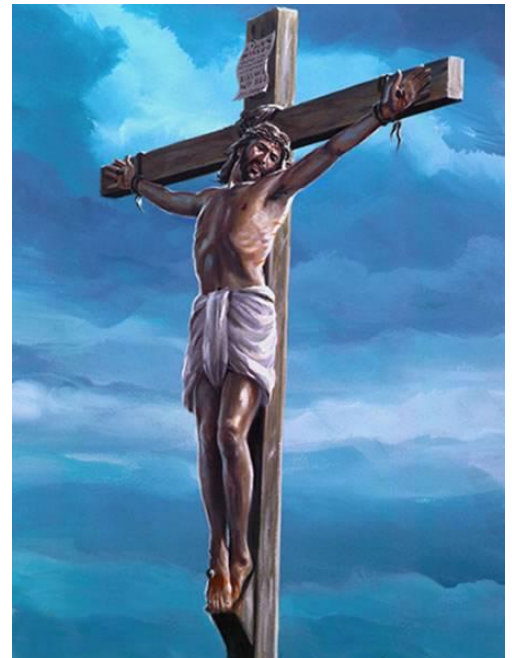
- The Jewish leaders arrange to have Jesus brought before the Roman Procurator, Pontius Pilate, to face charges of treason for claiming to be the king of the Jews.
- Afraid of the mobs calling for Jesus' death, Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified – the punishment for treason.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Crucifixion

- Crucifixion was a gruesome, public execution.
- The condemned man carried a crossbeam, which weighed between 75-125 pounds, on his shoulders.
- The criminal was then nailed to the upright beam of wood, using spikes about 7 inches long, most likely driven through the wrists and feet. .
- Death was caused by blood loss and asphyxiation (suffocation)
- Often the criminal's legs were broken to hasten death.
- Death would occur within hours or days, depending on the individual's physical condition.
- Jesus, having been severely beaten, died after 3 hours on the cross.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

After Jesus Died

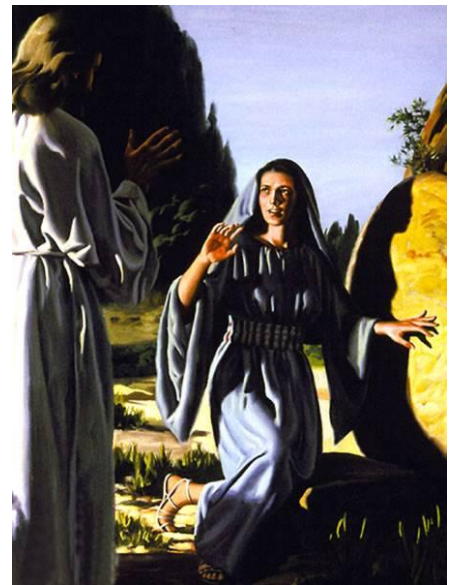
- Jesus was removed from the cross and placed in the arms of his mother, Mary.
- Nicodemus, a member of the Pharisees, provided a tomb for Jesus to be buried.
- Jesus was buried in the tomb on Friday, late in the afternoon.
- At sundown, the Sabbath began, so the women were unable to go to the tomb to anoint the body.
- They had to wait until Sunday morning.
- Meanwhile, Jewish officials asked for and received Roman guards to watch over the tomb so that the body would not be stolen.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

- There are no accounts of the moment of Resurrection, only the discovery of an empty tomb and accounts of encounters with the Risen Christ.
- The women who come to the tomb on Sunday morning find the stone rolled away and the tomb empty.
- Peter and John run to the tomb and find it just as the women described.
- On that day, the Risen Christ appears to:
 - Mary Magdalene
 - The “other” women
 - 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus
 - Simon Peter
 - The disciples without Thomas
- In most cases, the Risen Christ is not immediately recognized.



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

The Resurrection Appearances Of Jesus Christ

1. The Risen Christ's first appearance was to Mary Magdalene on that early Sunday morning. (Mark 16:9, John 20:11-18).
2. Jesus appeared to the women returning from the tomb. (Matthew 28:9-10).
3. Jesus appeared to two disciples on the road to Emmaus. (Luke 24:13-32, Mark 16:12-13).
4. He appeared to Peter in Jerusalem. (Luke 24:34, 1 Corinthians 15:5).
5. On Sunday afternoon, Jesus appeared to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. (Luke 24:36-43).
6. On Sunday evening, he appeared to His disciples and other followers in a locked room in Jerusalem. Note: the apostle Thomas was not there at this time. (John 20:19-23).
7. Eight days after His appearance in No. 5, Jesus again appeared to His disciples behind locked doors, and this time Thomas was present. (John 20:24-29).
8. Jesus appeared to seven of His disciples on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. (John 21:1-24).
9. Jesus was seen by 500 believers at one time. (1 Corinthians 15:6).
10. He appeared to James. (1 Corinthians 15:7).
11. He appeared to eleven disciples on a mountain in Galilee. (Matthew 28:16-20).
12. He walked with His disciples along the road to Bethany, on the Mount of Olives, and then ascended into Heaven. (Luke 24:50-53).
13. Some time after He was seen by over 500 people in the above list, He was seen by Paul on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9:3-6, 1 Corinthians 15:8).



THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

- We have no proof of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- We do however have compelling evidence:
 - people willing to give up their lives based on their testimony that they have encountered the Risen Christ.
 - lives transformed by people who give testimony (witness) to having encountered the Risen Christ.
 - the disciples
 - Saul of Tarsus/Paul
 - the Saints (capital S)
 - the saints (small s)

