

The Crucifixion

Lesson #12

Luke 23:26-56

Pilate, the Roman Governor, tried three times to release Jesus, declaring him innocent of the charges, but the religious leaders, however, continued to demand the crucifixion of Jesus and the release of the murderer Barabbas. Intimidated by the powerful religious leaders, Pilate surrendered and handed Jesus over to be crucified.

Friday Morning

1. Pilate turned Jesus over to the Roman soldiers at about 6 a.m. By this time, Jesus had been beaten so many times that he was unable to carry his own cross. How did the soldiers get Jesus' cross to the place of execution? (Luke 23:26)
2. The place the Romans used for crucifixion was called "Golgotha." What does "Golgotha" mean? (Matthew 27:33)
3. As Jesus was led through the streets of Jerusalem from the Praetorium to Golgotha, a large crowd of people began to follow. Whom does Luke single out in that crowd and why? (Luke 23:27)
4. Jesus turned to face them. They saw his battered and beaten body but heard words spoken by that now familiar voice. What did he call them? (Luke 23:28)
5. He told them not to weep for him but for themselves and their children. Why did he say they should do that? (Luke 23:29-30)
6. What was he referring to? (Luke 21:20-24)
7. He ended with another parable, "If men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?" (Luke 23:31) What is the difference between a green tree and a dry tree?
 - Whom do you think Jesus was referring to as the tree?

The Crucifixion

8. Jesus was not the only one who was being crucified that morning, there were two others as well. Why does Luke say these other two were being crucified? (Luke 23:32)

9. What position was Jesus given in this trio of crosses? (Luke 23:33)

10. Before continuing, try to recall from memory (no peeking!) what is recorded that Jesus said while he hung on the cross?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.

11. According to Luke, what was the first thing Jesus said? (Luke 23:34a)

12. How was Jesus practicing what he had been teaching? (Luke 6:27 & 28)

13. A common Roman practice was for the executioner to take any possessions of the person he was executing. How was that practice carried out in Jesus' case? (Luke 23:34b)

14. Around the crucified men, people stood watching, including some of the religious leaders who had called for Jesus' crucifixion. What does Luke say about these "rulers?" (Luke 23:35)

15. What did the soldiers say and do? (Luke 23:36-37)

16. Pilate had posted a written notice above Jesus. What was written on that plaque?
- Luke 23:38

 - John 19:19
17. What else did John say about that plaque? (John 19:20)
18. While the crucifixions were taking place, several hours passed. During that time, the men hanging on crosses also talked to Jesus. What did one of them say to him? (Luke 23:39)
19. The other criminal rebuked or scolded him. What did he say to this man? (Luke 23:40 & 41)
20. Then he turned toward Jesus. What did this second criminal say to Jesus? (Luke 23:42)
21. How did Jesus answer him? (Luke 23:43)

Jesus' Death

22. Luke said that at this point it was about "*the sixth hour.*" Luke was using Hebrew time which placed the time about noon on Friday. Jesus had been hanging on the cross for about 3 hours. What did Luke say happened at that time? (Luke 23:44 - 45a)
23. How did Luke describe what happened at the "*ninth hour*" (3:00 p.m.) that Passover Friday? (Luke 23:45b & 46)
24. A Roman centurion had been assigned to watch Jesus' crucifixion. What did this Roman say after watching Jesus die? (Luke. 23:47)

25. What additional information does Matthew add about the time of Jesus' death?
(Matthew 27:51-53)

26. How did the general crowd, who had come to witness his death, react to all this?
(Luke 23:48)

27. What did Luke say about those who knew Jesus? (Luke 23:49)

28. For Luke's Gentile audience, the details of Jesus' death end here. However, for John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, there was so much more to say. Turn to John 19. Who did he say was standing beside Jesus at the cross when he died? (John 19:25-26a)

29. Using John 19:26 & 27, What were Jesus' final words to:
 - His mother

 - His disciple John

30. Did John fulfill Jesus' dying request? (John 19:27b)

31. What did John record about Jesus' death:
 - His request (John 19:28)

 - His act (John 19:29-30a)

 - His final words (John 19:30)

32. Friday was called the “day of preparation” because all work had to be done before the Sabbath began at sundown. It is believed that Jesus died at 3 p.m. on Friday. In short summary, what information does John add about what took place immediately following Jesus’ death? (John 19:31-37)

Jesus’ Burial

33. Using Luke 23:50-52:

- Who went to Pilate to ask for Jesus’ body?

- Make a list of the information Luke gave about him.

34. After Pilate granted him permission, what did he do? (Luke 23:53)

35. Did this take place before the Sabbath began at sundown? (Luke 23:54)

36. What did Luke say the women who had been at the cross did when Jesus’ body was taken to the tomb? (Luke 23:55 & 56)