

JESUS IS TRIED AND CRUCIFIED

PLEASE do not read these comments until you have prayed and read the Bible for this lesson to learn what the Holy Spirit wants you to teach your students. Then let Him guide you in using these notes. When you follow this procedure you will be a better teacher of your students.

Lesson Aim: To appreciate the cost of our redemption and thank God for His great gift to us.

Suggestion: The teacher lesson will call attention to some important truths to teach. After the lesson, give your class next week's Student Lesson so they can share their answers in class next week.

Introduction: Salvation is free, but it is not cheap. It is so expensive that the richest person on earth could not buy it. Therefore, God offers it to us as a gift, but at great cost to Himself. In John 18-19, God's account books are opened, so we can see the cost of our redemption. "You were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Pet 1:18-19).

Why did Jesus stop Peter from using his sword to defend Him? 18:10-11

Jesus knew His hour had come for Him to die for the sins of all people, so there was no need for Peter to defend Him, get injured and possibly die. Peter needed to defend Jesus by the preaching of His Gospel, not by wielding his sword. Also, Jesus knew that Pilate would learn He was a king, but He did not want Pilate to have any evidence that His followers would wage any kind of war to protect Him. Jesus would later tell Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this world: if My Kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews" (18:37). His Kingdom was from Heaven, composed of all believers that were saved out of the world. He will return to the world with His Kingdom when the Jews are ready to receive Him as their Messiah-King (Zech 12:8-13:1). Then He will rule all nations from His capital in Jerusalem with righteous judgments. Are you in His Kingdom?

What was the cup that Jesus received from His Father and was ready to drink it? 18:11

The cup refers to His death and burial. However, people have misunderstood what Jesus meant when He prayed, "Let this cup pass from Me." He was not asking His Father to keep Him from dying on the cross: that was the whole purpose for Him to be sent to earth. He came to die for the sins of all people. He clearly told His disciples three times that He would be rejected by the Jewish religious leaders, be turned over to the Gentiles to kill Him, but He would be raised the third day (Mk 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34). Also, He had just instituted the Supper where the bread represented His body and the fruit of the vine represented His shed blood. Finally, it says in Hebrews 5:7 that His prayer was heard. Since He died on the cross, in what way was His prayer heard? Jesus prayed to His Father to save Him "from" death, that is, He prayed that His cup of death and burial would pass from Him by being raised from the grave. The Greek word "ek" is often translated "out of" as well as "from," which means Jesus asked that He would be saved "out of" death, which was heard and answered.

Why was Peter vulnerable to the denial of Jesus?

Peter failed to pray so he was not ready to resist the temptation to deny Jesus. Also, Peter tried to defend Jesus, but He rebuked him, telling him to put away His sword. This may have hurt his close bond to Jesus. Do you pray to stay close to the Lord so you can resist all temptations you may face?

What were the most important words that Jesus ever spoke? 19:30

When Jesus was asleep in a boat with His disciples, a fierce wind storm stirred up the waves of the Sea and threatened to capsize their boat. The disciples feared for their lives and awakened Jesus. He arose, rebuked the wind and told the waves, "Peace, be still." Instantly there was a great calm. A blind man asked Jesus to heal his eyes and Jesus said, "Receive your sight." Four men carried their lame friend to Jesus and He said to the lame man, "Your sins are forgiven" and He healed him. Jesus' words blessed these people, but the most important words Jesus spoke were from the cross to all people, "It is finished." Jesus' work to save sinners was finished when He died on the cross to pay the penalty for their sins and save them from Hell. These words are able to change your life and destiny forever.