

The Last Week Of Jesus' Life - Jesus' Burial

Sunday AM 12/01/19

Introduction:

What's next after a person dies? A question often asked and the answer is usually pretty simple. Something has to be done with the body. Decision made concerning a service or whether to have a service. Then life goes on. The death of Jesus is recorded in all four Gospels and so His burial. We want to look at the burial of Jesus, who took part, where He was buried, and lessons learned from His burial for us today.

I) The Parallel Recordings—*Matthew 27.57-61; Mark 15.42-47; Luke 23.50-56; John 19.38-42*

A) Joseph of Arimathea

1. A secret disciple due to fear, *John 19.38*
2. A good and just man, *Luke 23.50*
3. A prominent council member, *Mark 15.43*
4. Did not consent to Jesus' death, *Luke 23.51a*
5. Waiting for the kingdom of God, *Luke 23.52b*.
6. Went to Pilate and asked for the body, *Luke 23.52*; Pilate was surprised Jesus was dead and gave permission, *Mark 15.44*
7. Takes the body down and wraps it a clean linen, *Matthew 27.59*
8. A new tomb, hewn in rock with a stone to roll over the mouth of the grave, *Matthew 23.60*

B) Nicodemus, *John 19*

1. First came to Jesus by night, **v. 39**
2. Earlier came at night to talk with Jesus, ***John 3.1-5.***
3. Jesus spoke about entering the kingdom of God.
4. At Jesus' burial he brings spices and aloes for burial, ***John 19.39, 40***

C) The women

1. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses, ***Matthew 27.61, Mark 15.47***
2. They saw where Jesus was laid.
3. The women prepared spices and oils for Jesus' body, ***Luke 23.55-56.***

D) The other disciples were not present

E) The Law of Moses concerning the touching of a dead body.

1. Anyone touching a dead body will be unclean seven days, ***Numbers 19.11.***
2. Must purify himself on the third day and then he will be clean on the 7th day, ***Num. 19.12.***
3. Therefore, anyone touching the body of Jesus would not be able to observe the Passover.

II) What The Burial of Jesus Says

A) The burial was an act of love

1. Why were Joseph and Nicodemus there, the same reason we go to any funeral and burial. To show respect, love, and encourage others.
2. If not for these people the body of Jesus would have been buried with other criminals in a mass grave.

B) The burial was a courageous act

1. To be associated with Jesus was a risky thing. Think of Peter denying Jesus due to fear.
2. Joseph was a “secret disciple” due to fear; Nicodemus came to Jesus at night due to fear.
3. Persecution of Jesus’ followers did not end at the grave but began.

C) It was a necessary act

1. According to the law of Moses, Jesus had to be buried before sundown, ***Deut. 21-22-23***
2. Also necessary to establish the fact of Jesus’ death. Notice the Jewish leaders did not question the death of Jesus.

D) It was an appropriate act

1. We read of burials throughout the Bible and Jesus was buried like those before Him, ***Hebrews 2.17***
2. Today, no one questions the appropriateness of having a burial.

E) It was an expectant act

1. Joseph and Nicodemus did not realize it but Jesus burial was the second step in a 3-step plan.
2. He was to die on the cross, be buried, and then be raised from the grave. You can't have the "raised from the grave" without the being buried in the grave.

III) **Our Burial with Christ, *Romans 6.3,4.***

A) It is a loving act

1. Our obedience is to be motivated by love, ***John 14.15.***
2. A person who loves Jesus and reads what Jesus says, will do what Jesus says.

B) Is it a courageous act

1. To start new life can be a scary thing.
2. We must be willing to put aside our fears and act by faith.

C) It is a necessary act (not optional)

1. The people on the Day of Pentecost asked what must they do, ***Acts 2.37-38.***
2. The Philippian jailer asked what must I do to be saved, ***Acts 16.30***; he was told to be baptized, ***Acts 16.31-33.***

D) It is an appropriate act

1. When we bury someone, we don't leave part of the body uncovered.
2. Baptism means an immersion and not a sprinkling or pouring of water over a person.

E) It is an expectant act

1. Our burial in water is just step two in a three-step process.
 - a. Step one is to be dead, in our case to be dead in sin.
 - b. Step two is be dead from sin.
 - c. Step three is to walk in newness of life, ***Romans 6.3,4.***

Conclusion:

Just as Jesus was raised from the grave we too will one day be raised from our grave. ***1 Corinthians 15.20,23.***