

Matthew 27:57-61
The Forgotten Part of the Gospel
August 30, 2020 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Intro -

1 Cor. 15 - "I declare to you the *gospel*... that Christ *died* for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was *buried*, and that He *rose again*."

1. The urgency of the burial.

Matt 27:46 - About the ninth hour (3 p.m.) Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" *Then, v.50*, Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and *yielded up His spirit*.

Psalm 16:10 - You won't allow Your Holy One to undergo corruption.

The empty tomb was one of the great early proofs of the resurrection.

Christianity first grew around Jerusalem where people could examine the evidence.

Humanly speaking, Jesus' burial was a race against time.

But from God's perspective it all happened in God's perfect time.

v. 50 - *Jesus* yielded up His Spirit.

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2. The prophecy of the burial.

Isaiah 53:9 - They made His grave with the wicked--but with the rich at His death.

3. The agency of the burial.

v. 57 - Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

1. Joseph was a converted man.

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2. Joseph was a conflicted man.

Mark 15:43 - Joseph of Arimathea, a *prominent member of the Council*, was waiting for the kingdom of God...

Luke 23:50-51 - Now there was a Council member named Joseph, a good and righteous man, who hadn't consented to their decision or action.

John 19:38 - Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but *secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders*.

3. Joseph was a changed man.

He went from being cowardly to courageous.

v. 58 - This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb which he'd hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

As soon as Joseph did this everybody knew where he stood.

One of the great messages of the Bible is: People can change.

YOU CAN CHANGE!

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Romans 12:1-2 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice to God... And don't be conformed to this world, but be transformed...

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1 Cor. 15 - "I declare to you the *gospel*... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, and that He rose again."

1. The _____ of the burial.

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