EASTER



A Story of Threes

THREE THINGS OF FIRST IMPORTANCE:



- 1. Christ died for our sins
- 2. He was buried
- 3. He rose the third day

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Jesus, God's Son

- 1. Began His public ministry around age 30
- 2. Taught, preached, healed, and did good for about 3 years
- 3. Was betrayed, arrested, tried, crucified, and He died and rose again around age 33





BETRAYAL

Our story begins when Jesus is about 33 years old

3 Steps to Setup the Betrayal: Matthew 26:1-14



26:1-5 — Jesus predicts his betrayal: "The Passover is 2 days away, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."



2

26:6-13 — Judas is indignant at the woman who pours expensive perfume on Jesus' head: Jesus responds, "Why are you bothering this woman?... When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial."



3

26:14-16 — Judas arranges the betrayal: He goes to the chief priests and asks, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him over to you?" They counted for him 30 pieces of silver.





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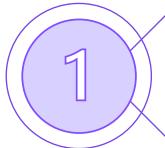
THE LAST SUPPER

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"I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer."

3 Stages of the Supper: Luke 22:17-21



The Cup (22:17-18) After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."





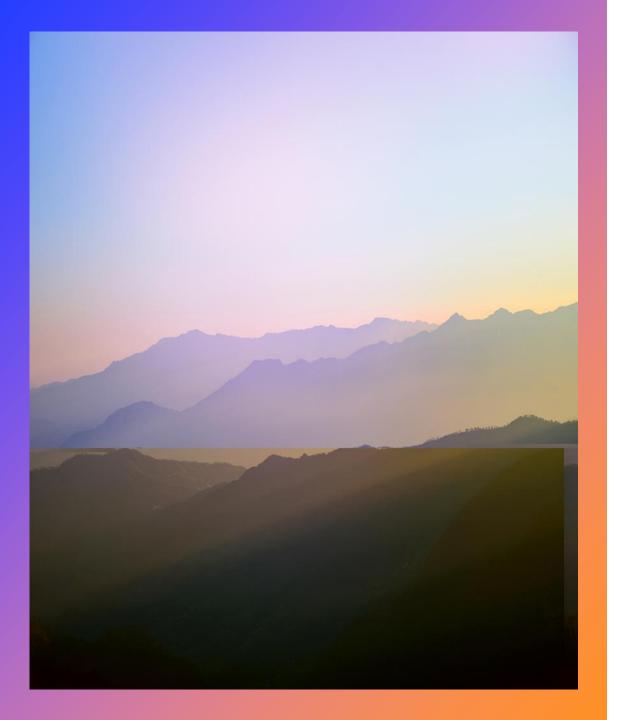
The Bread (22:19) And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."





The Cup (22:20-21) In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table."





Jesus predicts Peter's three denials

- 1. Luke 22:31-32 Jesus said, "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."
- 2. Luke 22:33 But Peter replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!"
- 3. Luke 22:34 Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."



THE GARDEN

Matthew 26:36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

Jesus prays 3 times to His Father

Matthew 26:37-38 He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

- Matthew 26:39-41 He fell with His face to the ground, and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."
 - Matthew 26:42 He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."
- Matthew 26:44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

Matthew 26:45-46 Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"





Matthew 26:57 Those who had arrested Jesus took Him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled.



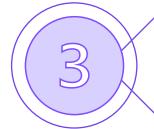
Peter disowns Jesus 3 times (Matthew 26:69-75)



26:69-70 Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said. But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.



26:71-72 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"



26:73-74 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

26:74-75 Immediately a rooster crowed. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.



Pilate asked the people 3 times if they wanted Jesus released. Each time, they cried out "CRUCIFY HIM!"

Luke 23:22-24 For the third time he spoke to them: "Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore, I will have him punished and then release him." But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand.





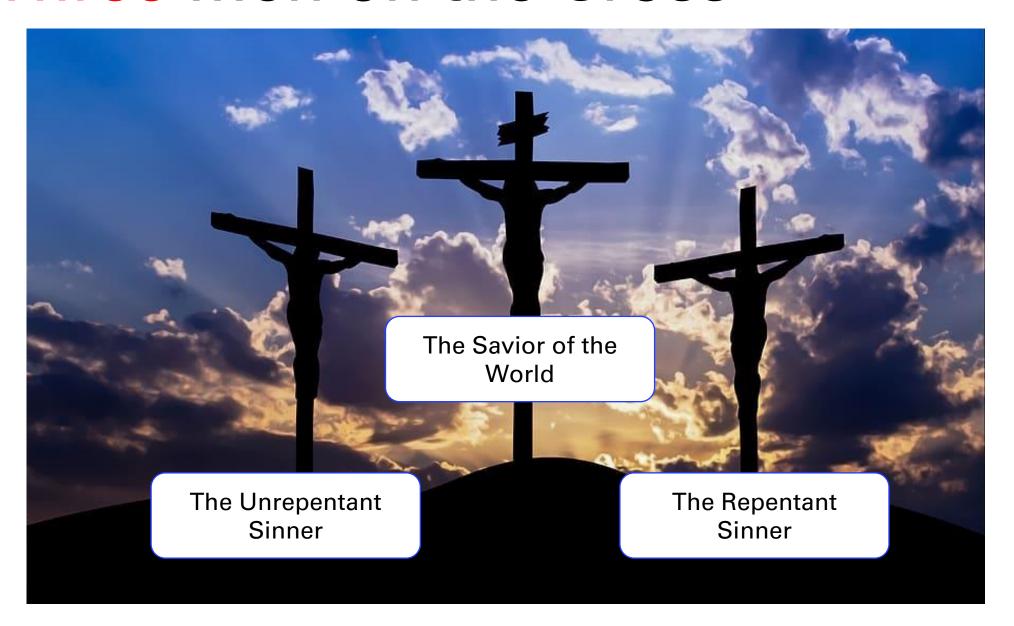
THE CRUCIFIXION

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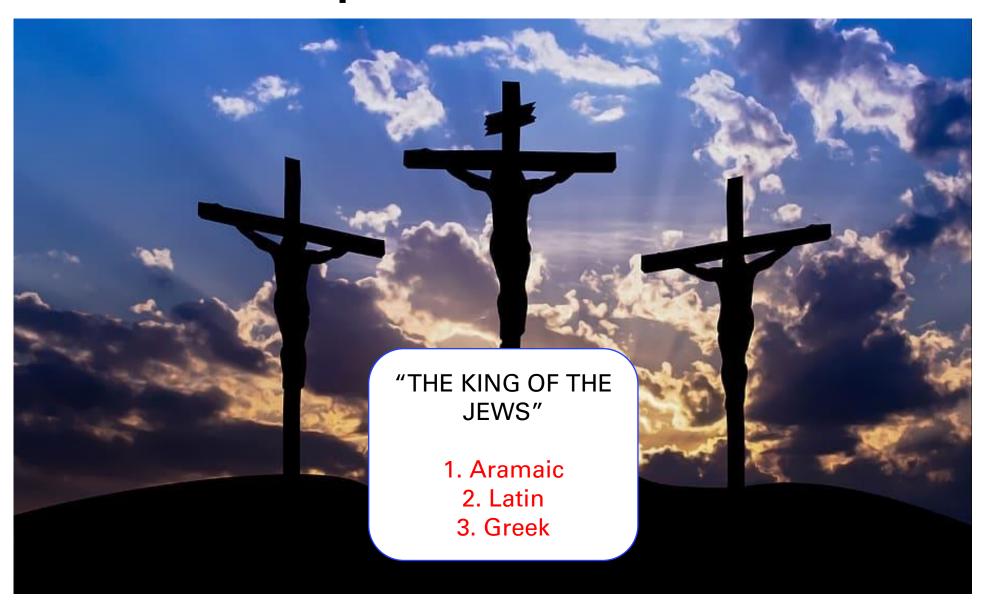
Luke 23:33-34 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on His left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."



Three Men on the Cross



The 3 Inscriptions



THE HOURS ON THE CROSS

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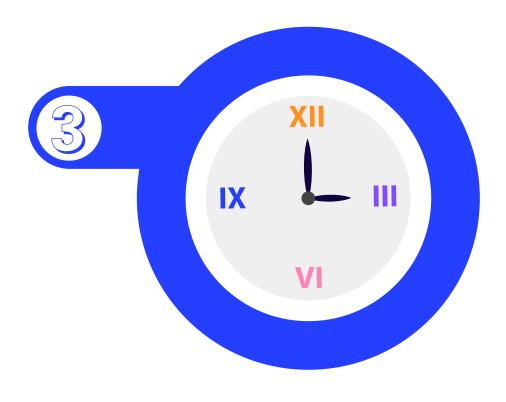
Mark 15:33 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

Mark 15:42-43 **As evening approached**, Joseph of Arimathea... went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.

Nine (3 X 3) Hours on the Cross

9 AM to 12 PM

Jesus is crucified. One of the thieves mocks Him. The other repents. The religious leaders and many of the people mock Him. "He saved others! He can't save Himself!" They are unaware that He is hanging there for them—about to take upon Himself all of their sin, bare God's wrath, and pay the penalty in full.

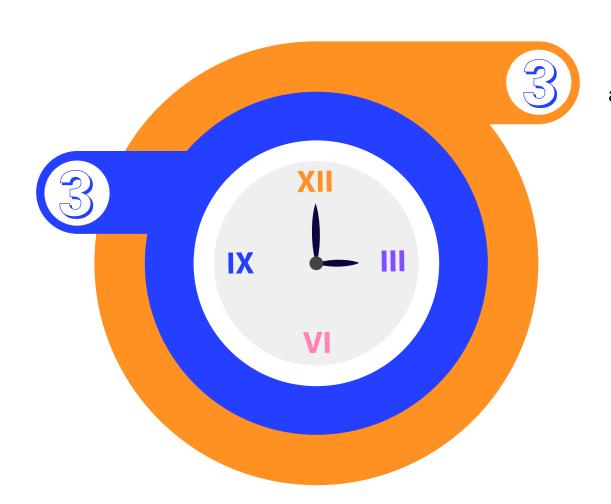




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12 PM to 3 PM

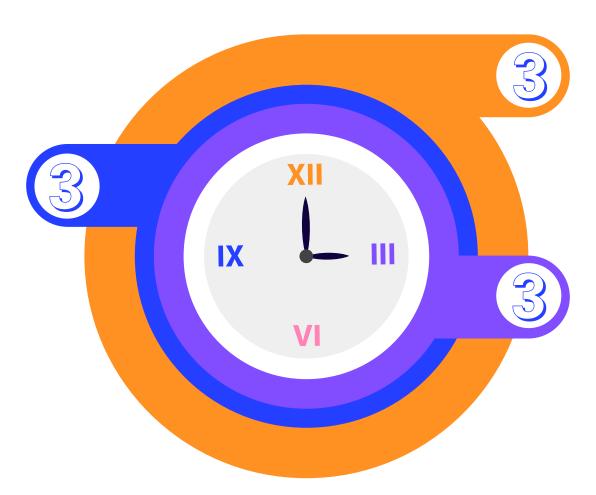
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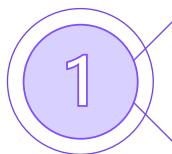
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3 PM to ~6 PM

Jesus is dead when the soldiers check him, so they don't break his legs. They pierce his side instead. Around 6 PM, they take his body down and give it to Joseph of Arimathea.

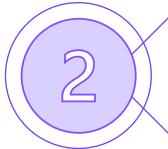


Jesus last 3 "sayings" from the cross

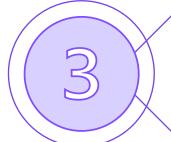


Matthew 27:50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

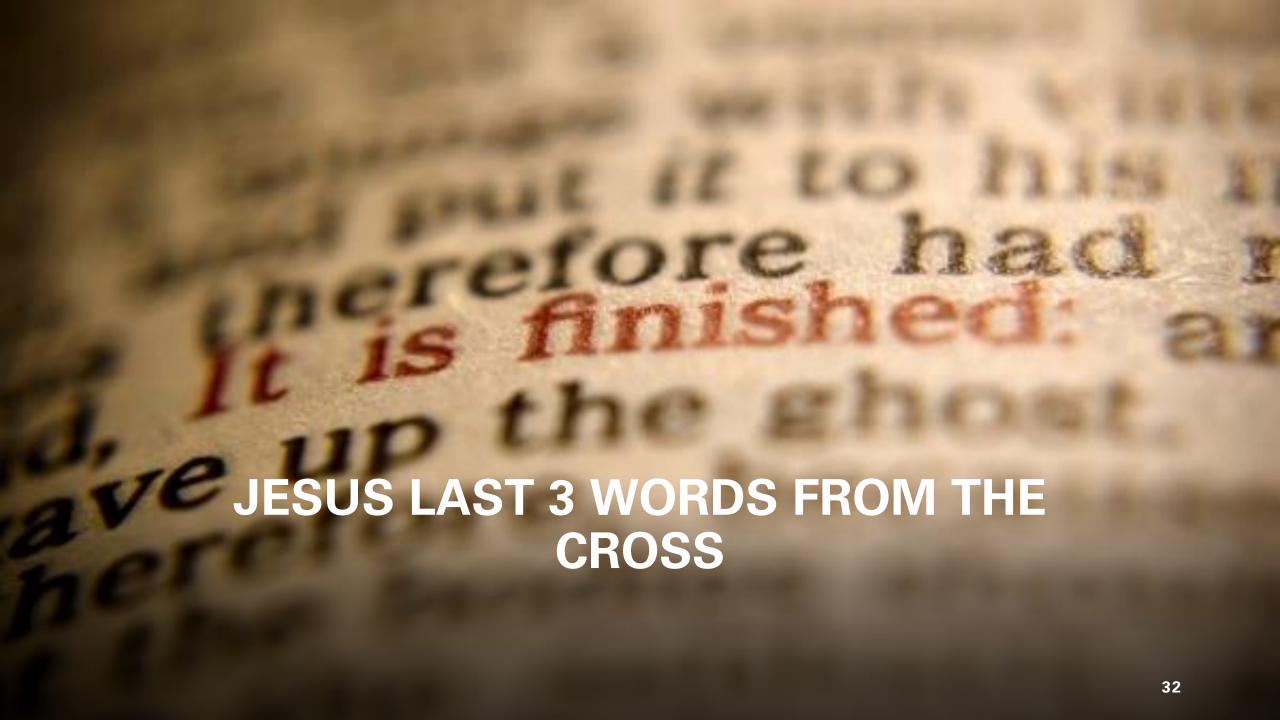
Mark 15:37 With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.



Luke 23:46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" When he had said this, he breathed his last.



John 19:30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.



THE RESURRECTION

Mark 8:31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again.

On the third day after His death and burial...

Matthew 28:1-6 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said! Come and see the place where he lay."



