## The Death of Jesus

Scripture: Matthew 27:45-56

Series: Death and Life: How Jesus Saves the World

Sunday, March 13, 2016

## Overview



The death of Jesus transforms how we think of Jesus, it transforms how we think of death, and it transforms how we approach the Christian life. Through Jesus' death on the cross, access to God is open and we can enter into a relationship with Him. Even though we'll die a physical death here on earth, Jesus has the last word over death. Through faith in Jesus, we are given spiritual rebirth and the promised hope of eternal life. Faith in Jesus also means taking up our cross daily to follow Him, as well as dying to sin and dying to self. We must put to death our sinful thoughts such as pride, lust, envy and idolatry, and grasp that Jesus is more wonderful than the pleasures of this life.

## **Corraborating Texts**

Amos 8:9-10; Psalm 22:1; John 10:15-18; Romans 5:8; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; Romans 6:23; 2 Timothy 1:10; Hebrews 2:9; 1 Corinthians 15:54; Matthew 16:24-26; Colossians 3:5; Revelation 12:10-11; Revelation 21:4

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. How did you view Jesus before becoming a Christian? As a great man? A great teacher? A great prophet? As one option among many historical religious figures?
- 2. What did you think of Jesus' *death* before becoming a Christian? Did you know it was rooted in history and seen by many eyewitnesses? Did you know who killed Jesus and why? Did His death have any effect on you?
- 3. In Tom's sermon, was there something that you learned about Jesus' death and the events surrounding it that you didn't know before?
- 4. Before you became a Christian, what did you think happens to people after they die? (Are they in a "better place?" Do they become "part of the universe?" Is there a heaven? Is there a final judgment? Is death merely personal extinction? Can anyone really know?)
- 5. As believers, what is the cost of following Christ? What are we called to do? [we must take up our cross daily, die to sin and self, put to death sinful thoughts]
- 6. What areas of your life is God calling you to put to death? What areas tempt you in a way that prevents you from seeing that Jesus is more wonderful than the pleasures of this life?