

Sunday, October 31, 2021

## Crucified

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### John 19:16-30

If I am holding a pen and let it go, the law of gravity will take over. If it could speak, it might say, "Let me go. Let me have my way". The reality is that if the pen in my hand has its own way and is independent of me, it won't be independent of the law of gravity. It will fall. (Drop pen)

When I reach down and pick up the pen, there is another law at work. I will not have canceled the gravity. It will still be in effect, but I will be overriding it with the power I have to pick it up off the floor. Gravity will still be in effect but it just won't be ruling. <sup>1</sup>

Our author this morning, the apostle John, writes with purpose. He is the odd man out. The other 3 Gospels are called the synoptic Gospels, which is a relatively new term given to Matthew, Mark & Luke. *"Since the 1780s the first three books of the New Testament have been called the Synoptic Gospels because they are so similar in structure, content, and wording that they can easily be set side by side to provide a synoptic comparison of their content. (The Gospel According to John has a different arrangement and offers a somewhat different perspective on Christ.)"* <sup>2</sup>

So when you hear the term synoptic gospels, it's referring to...?

Even though the 1st three gospel are more similar in structure than John, they each provide a true but distinct perspective and taken together, they provide a holistic view of the Jesus we believe in.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.google.com/books/edition/Tony\\_Evans\\_Book\\_of\\_Illustrations/O-d2JAIk9uMC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=story+of+double+jeopardy+sermon+illustration&pg=PT154&printsec=frontcover](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Tony_Evans_Book_of_Illustrations/O-d2JAIk9uMC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=story+of+double+jeopardy+sermon+illustration&pg=PT154&printsec=frontcover)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Synoptic-Gospels>

John states his purpose at the end of his Gospel,

But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31

True faith in the true Christ equals true life.

And how John defines "Christ" is God in the flesh.

He starts his Gospel with this clear premise.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

It's important to remember, especially in our text this morning. God never stopped being God when he died on the cross.

This is the death of Christ...

### **Read vs. 16-17**

In the **Gospel of Luke** we get more detail about the journey from Pilate to Golgotha.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. Luke 23:26

Review from last week-The brutality of Christ. It was me... It was you. Yet in all of this, he says,

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34

### **Read 18a. "There they crucified him"**

As the nails are driven into his body, as he is hoisted in the air and the ability to breath becomes a fight for every breath... yet he says, "Father, forgive."

God never stopped being God

The mockery continued

And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" Matthew 27:39-43

Yet the mercy did as well...

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:39-43

And all the while, God never stopped being God. Even in this, he was opening his arms to the nations!

**Read Vs. 19-22.** Aramaic, Latin, and Greek were known as the three great divisions of the civilized world.

The pulpit commentary says this

*The proclamation of Christ's royalty to the three great divisions of the civilized world is a providential fact of supreme interest. Thousands of Jews would carry*

*the news of the mysterious "title" to far-off places, and ponder it in their homes. This was part of the preparation made by Divine providence for announcing to the whole world the kingdom of Jesus Christ. Since the cross from the very first thus became a throne, and the Crucifixion an installation into the kingdom, we learn thence the meaning of the Christian principle, "If we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him."<sup>3</sup>*

God never stopped being God. There he was, arms stretched wide because his hands were nailed to a cross and the onlookers could only mock, yet in his sovereignty, he was there on purpose, choosing not only to suffer and die, but to hold his arms to all how we weak and heavy laden, for in these suffering arms all who call upon his name can find rest!

Read 23-24

God never stopped being God, for even in this scene where there seems to be chaos, random events, and a lot of, "how could this be?!" From followers of Christ strewn through the crowd...

Yet here God is fulfilling messianic Psalm prophecy.

Before his death in Matthews account he cries, **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46** This is also the first line to Psalm 22

**Psalm 22**, Memorizing Psalms (no verses). Look what else it says.

All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" Psalm 22:7-8

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. Psalm 22:14-15

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<sup>3</sup>The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Ed.). (1909). [St. John](#) (Vol. 2, p. 427).

For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.  
Psalm 22:16-18

God never stopped being God

We see the same thing in **vs. 28 (read), another messianic fulfillment of Psalm 69...**

God never stopped being God, even though it was our sin that held him there, it was our responsibility of the crucified Christ, he never stopped being God!!! For in his infinite wisdom and grace, while we were crucifying our lord, we were also dying with him!

### **Gospel in context**

Application-what does that mean for us?

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Colossians 3:3

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:19-20

We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:6-11

We have a law that reflects what I am trying to say; Double Jeopardy.

"The Double Jeopardy Clause in the Fifth Amendment to the US Constitution prohibits anyone from being prosecuted twice for substantially the same crime. The relevant part of the Fifth Amendment states, 'No person shall . . . be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb . . . .'"<sup>4</sup>

Your crime has received a judgement, the penalty has been paid, you cannot be prosecuted for your crime again.

What about the sins I commit as a christian? Since I died with Christ when I first believed, it seems logical that the sins I commit after I became a Christian didn't die.

-With this understanding, it's hard to face your sin. But it was not just the sins you committed before Christ, it was all of them! How is this possible?! You may ask. Because **God never stopped being God!**

Think back to the pen and it may surprise you, we are much like the pen; by ourselves the law of sin and death will take us down. We will fall every time. Yet another law overrides that law. Your sin is still evil and deserves divine punishment, much like the law of gravity is not canceled when I let the pen go. (Drop pen) But when I pick it up, I will be overriding that law. Much like God, in his power, has overcome the law of sin and death. This is why confession of sin is so important. We no longer have to pretend that our sins don't exist because they make us feel dirty, or ugly, or filled with shame, fear, or guilt. We can acknowledge the law, yet also acknowledge ANOTHER law has overridden that law; the very power of God through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A friend wrote a song called "My Soul Knows", which says this...

*my foe will say you've lost the race*

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/double\\_jeopardy](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/double_jeopardy)

*you've wandered far from home  
you don't deserve another day of grace*

*i will say you words are right, but you forget the rest  
the Son was slain and rose against your death <sup>5</sup>*

Believe & consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus...  
AND LIVE!

2 ways to worship

-Communion and Offering

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<sup>5</sup> <https://zimmerman.bandcamp.com/track/my-soul-knows>