

## The Day YAHSHUA Died (Matt. 27: 46, 50)

Six days before the Passover Feast, YAHSHUA came to Bethany where Lazarus was, who had died and whom He had raised from the dead. So they made Him supper (John 12:1-2a).

That was the most important Passover Feast unknown to the Jewish nation. In the period of these six days a supper was given to Him at the house of Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha. That day Mary took a pound of ointment of pure liquid nard that was very expensive and she poured it on YAHSHUA'S feet and wiped them with her hair. And the whole house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume (John 12: 3). That was the preparation for His burial, as He made it known to those who criticized her action of devotion, love and gratitude to Him. Those six days before the Passover included Sunday on which YAHSHUA arrived in Bethany. Friday of that week was "the day for the preparation" of the Jew's Passover. That was the day when our Lord was crucified.

Mary's anointing the Lord before His death, took place on the tenth day of the first month, four days before His death. That harmonizes with Exodus 12: 3-6, when the Lord commanded Israel to set apart the lambs for sacrifice on the tenth of the month and kill them on the fourteenth of the same month. He said, On the tenth day of this month they shall take every man a lamb or kid, according to the family of which he is the father, a lamb or kid for each house. And you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill [his] lamb in the evening. YAHSHUA fulfilled every detail of the Law in living and in His death. When the lambs set apart were being killed on that Passover time, the world was unaware of the ultimate sacrifice happening at the same time. His death overshadowed the sacrifices of the animals for they were just a shadow of what was to come—the substance, the consummation and completion of men's forgiveness was in the sacrifice of the holy Lamb of God.

The procession that led YAHSHUA to Golgotha arrived there at the third hour, or between eight and nine o'clock A.M. In the Jewish calendar the day was Friday, the fourteenth of the first month and the "day of preparation". The Romans crucified Him between two robbers. The disfigurement of His face and body was prophesied by Isaiah many years previously. He said, His face and His whole appearance were marred more than any man's and His form beyond that of the sons of men (Isaiah 52:14). While in that condition He was nailed to a stake. There He suffered the reproach and abuse of those who passed by. They jeered at Him, wagging their heads saying, You Who would tear down the sanctuary of the temple and rebuilt it in three days, rescue Yourself from death. If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross; the chief priests and scribes and elders made sport of Him saying, He rescued others from death; Himself He cannot rescue; He is the king of Israel? Let Him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in Him; He trusts in God; Let God deliver Him now if He cares for Him and will have Him, for He said, I am the Son of God (Matt. 27:39-43). For four hours He was mentally

abused, but suffered quietly without defending Himself. “For the joy that was set before Him YAHSHUA endured the cross (lit. stake), despising the shame” (Heb. 12:2).

That was a cold day; while others were warming themselves by the fire, He was hanging on the tree partly naked and with open wounds from the inflicting floggings applied to His body. In the day that YAHSHUA was crucified every prediction concerning His death was fulfilled. His statement of being the Son of God and king of the Jews, were rejected to the point of His crucifixion. Pilate in spite of his ignorance of whom He was, accepted the fact and posted above the cross, the inscription, “JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS”. In the most remarkable prophetic way, that of being in three languages: Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. The whole world of yesterday read and understood His future position when He comes as the King of kings of the entire world. It will someday bow down before Him and worship Him.

They hung Him between two thieves, as Isaiah predicted, They assigned Him a grave with the wicked, and with a rich man in His death (Isaiah 53:9). Their respective attitudes represented the human attitude in general. One was heartless and proud, while the other repentant and humble. One railed against YAHSHUA by saying, “If You are the Christ, save you and us”. But the repentant thief rebuked him by saying, “Don’t you fear God, seeing that you are in the same condemnation? And we justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong”. With a contrite heart he asked YAHSHUA, “Remember me when You enter your kingdom”; At that moment YAHSHUA gave Him eternal salvation by saying, “Today you will be with Me in paradise”. This thief’s confession and repentance of sin opened the way for him to enter heaven. Since YAHSHUA died before he did, I am sure He was waiting for him to welcome him into paradise As He promised him.

Mary, His mother was among other women who had been there witnessing His death. The agony she experienced seeing her son being beaten and crucified is beyond human suffering. That was like a sword piercing her heart. Her soul was pierced, as Simeon prophesied to them when they took YAHSHUA to the temple. Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, Behold, this Child is appointed and destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (Luke 2:34,35). Just before He died, He looked at His mother and fulfilled the responsibility of an older son: “Woman, See, your son! Then He said to John, See, your mother! And from that hour, the disciple took her into his own (John 19:26-27).

The day YAHSHUA died when He uttered His last cry, these things happened:

- (1) The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, giving all believers in Him an access to the throne of God.
- (2) The earth shook nervously by means of an earthquake
- (3) The rocks were split
- (4) The tombs were opened and many bodies of the saints were raised
- (5) The conversion of the Roman centurion and his soldiers (Matt. 27:54)

The Centurion’s confession of faith in YAHSHUA was a remarkable step of faith, since the Romans embraced Cesar as the god of the nation. We don’t know what happened to his new

belief, if he remained faithful and shared this truth to many of his rank, or if he kept quiet about it and forgot it with time, as we human tend to do. But we do know that what he witnessed in that day caused him to be filled with awe and to believe.

Three o'clock in the afternoon was the hour of the evening sacrifice during the Passover Feast. As an antitype YAHSHUA was anointed by Mary four days before Passover time, when the Israelites were setting apart the lambs for the coming sacrifice. The day that YAHSHUA died from the six hour (noon) to the ninth hour (three o'clock) there was darkness all over Jerusalem. These were the hours of deep anguish when God had laid on His Son the sins of the world and made His life an offering for our sins. He suffered the ultimate pain man will suffer, when His Father forsook Him. That was the pain of eternal life without God in hell. The most significant cry ever let out was heard at three o'clock, MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME? He then gave up His Spirit.

Redemption was then complete as He declared before His death, "It is finished"! There is no longer any sacrifice left to atone for [our] sins, but a kind off awful and fearful prospect and expectation of divine judgment and the fury of burning wrath and indignation which will consume those who put themselves in opposition [to God] (Heb. 10:26-27).

Today is the day of salvation; that's all we have. Tomorrow will be too late!  
Accept His gift of salvation today, my friends!