

THE NUMBER THREE AT JESUS' TRIAL, DEATH AND RESSURRECTION

In the Garden of Gethsemane, before His arrest, Jesus suffered the agony of what was awaiting Him a few hours later, with deep depression. Taking with Him **three** of His disciples, He said to them, "My soul is very sad and deeply grieved, so that I am almost dying with sorrow. Stay here and keep awake and keep watch with Me" (Matt.26:38). **Three times He prayed**, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but as You will and desire".

Three times He came to the disciples and found them sleeping.

Three times Pilate tried to release Him. "**A third** time he (Pilate) said to them, why? What wrong has He done? I have found nothing deserving of death in Him" (Luke 23:22a).

Peter denied Him **three times** (Matt. 26:75). "And Peter remembered Jesus' words, when He had said, before a single rooster crows, you will deny and disown Me **three times**."

Jesus was sold for **thirty pieces of silver**, which is 3x10, a number that symbolizes responsibility. He had to die. **Thirty** is salvation through the blood; **thirty** is also connected to the life of Jesus, for He was **thirty** when He began His ministry; He was **thirty-three** when He accomplished it.

- At the cross He was tempted **three times** from different classes of people: **From those who passed by**, "Rescue Yourself from death. **If You are the Son of God, come down** from the cross"; **From the chief priests with the scribes and the elders**," **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"; and **the robbers**, also abused and reproached and made sport of Him in the same way" (Matt.27:40-44).

Compare these temptations to those He went through in the desert, specially the one found in Matt.4:6. "And (the devil) said to Him, **if You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down**". These are the identical words used by the devil to tempt Him in the desert. In the chapter 4 of Luke, verse 13, we read, "And when the

devil had ended every temptation, he let Him until another more opportune and favorable time”.

“Until another more opportune and favorable time” and this was that “opportune and favorable time” for the devil did indeed tempt Him through people’s voice.

The three temptations of Jesus in the desert, symbolized Israel’s temptations when they were in the desert. (First), “**command these stones to be made bread**”. We read in Deuteronomy 8:3: And He humbled you and allowed you to hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you recognize and personally know that man does not live by bread only, but man **lives by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord**”. This was the answer Jesus gave to the devil. (Second) “**If you are the Son of God, throw Yourself down**” (verse 6). In Exodus 17:7 we read how the Israelites tempted the Lord. It reads: He called the place Massah [proof] and Meribah [contention] because of the faultfinding of the Israelites and because they tempted and tried the patience of the Lord, saying, Is the Lord among us or not? In Deuteronomy 6:16, Moses warns the Israelites, “You shall not tempt and try the Lord Your God as you tempted and tried Him in Massah”. (Third), “these things, all taken together, I will give You, if You will prostrate Yourself before me and do homage and worship me”. This was Israel’s idolatry found in Exodus chapter 32. God gave these words to Israel, “You shall not make yourself any graven image or any likeness of anything that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; **you shall not bow down yourself to them**” (Exodus 20:2,3).

Jesus was crucified on **the third hour of nine O’clock** (Mark 15:25); the inscription that Pilate wrote was in **three languages**: Hebrew, Greek, and Latin- which is prophetic of the time when He will be king over the whole earth. **Three hours later**, darkness took the whole world for **three hours**, from **12:00 to 3:00**, and **at three O’clock He died**. In that period of darkness, it was as if God removed from the eyes of the public, the agony of His Son as He took and carried the sins of the world upon Himself.

Then there is the **third day**, when the resurrection power was expressed in His rising from the dead. It was finished! It is finished! It was complete on **the third day**! The third day means completion.

THINK ABOUT IT!

I am Jacinta for Light from the Word Ministry