

Four In One Gospel (Part One)

THE CRUCIFIXION

Compiled by Gary T. Panell

Many people are confused about the Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. People think that there are contradictions between the books. Sometimes people do not understand that each Gospel is following a theme. One way of looking at the themes the Gospel's present is: Matthew is about "King Jesus", Mark is about "Jesus as Servant," Luke is covering the theme "Jesus as Man," and John, "Jesus as God." The reason for the books covering some different material is to talk about these themes. This is the way the Lord intended; however, it is not wrong to study the books as being part of the whole Gospel as well. Even as a person puts together a jig saw puzzle, when it is finished it makes a complete picture. So, too, when we put all the pieces of the puzzle together they make one beautiful perfect picture of Christ.

With this in mind, I have tried to be careful to be as accurate as possible in the order of events. No one but God knows exactly how they all fit together, and I am not going to say I have all the answers, but most of the problems people have with "so called" contradictions between the books disappear when you put the events together in order. For example the resurrection of Christ as to what happened first, second, etc. Also one needs to study the culture to understand why some things were said the way they were said, for instance, the passage in 1 Corinthians 15:5-8 is speaking only of the "men" Christ appeared to. The reason Paul said this the way he did, was because a woman could not be a witness in a court of law at that time.

Another example where it helps to see the whole picture, and know something about the times when the Bible was written, is the time of Peter's denials of the Lord Jesus Christ. "No contradiction is to be imagined with the other Gospels concerning the number of times the cock was to crow. The others merely state the fact that the denial would come before cock-crowing (the third watch of the night; see on 13:35, at even...midnight...cockcrowing...morning. These are the four watches of the night according to the Roman reckoning). Mark gives added detail by mentioning the specific number of times that the cock would crow."¹ Hopefully this study will shed more light on many such passages that people have questions about, but by the same token it is important to do background studies, such as the original languages, history, etc.

I have placed the references in the text and if you are interested, you could find the references in a "Synopsis of the Four Gospels" which most good study Bibles have. I have tried not to leave anything out, but no doubt there will be revisions of this in the future. I have not duplicated the passages where the same thing is said in different words. There are NO CONTRADICTIONS, every "piece" fits perfectly. God bless you as you read! All Bible references are taken from the New King James Version.

¹ Pfeiffer, Charles, F. & Harrison, Everett F. The WYCLIFFE Bible Commentary, The Southwester Company, Nashville, Tennessee, 1962 (Pp. 1018, 1020). Vine, W.E. VINES'S Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Word, Fleming H. Revell Company, Old Tappan, New Jersey, 1981, Page 202, COCK-CROWING.

Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives² (which was named Gethsemane)³ as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them,⁴ “Sit here while I go and pray over there,⁵ pray that you may not enter into temptation.”⁶ And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.”

He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”⁷

And He said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping,⁸ what, could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy;⁹ and they did not know what to answer Him.¹⁰

So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.¹¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if it is Your will, remove this cup from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”¹² Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. And His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”¹³ Then He came the third time and said to them,¹⁴

² Luke 22:39

³ Mark 14:32

⁴ Luke 22:40

⁵ Matthew 26:36

⁶ Luke 22:40

⁷ Mark 14:33-36

⁸ Mark 14:37

⁹ Matthew 26:40-46

¹⁰ Mark 14:40

¹¹ Matthew 26:44

¹² Luke 22:41-42

¹³ Luke 22:43-46

¹⁴ Mark 14:44

“Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. “Rise, let us be going. See, he who betrays Me is at hand.”¹⁵

Immediately, while He was still speaking,¹⁶ there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them.¹⁷ Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples.¹⁸ Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.¹⁹

Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him and lead Him away safely.”²⁰ Then immediately he went up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come,²¹ Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”²²

Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?” They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Then—when He said to them, “I am He,”—they drew back and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, “Whom are you seeking?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way,” that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, “of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.”²³

When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”²⁴ Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear, the servant’s name was Malchus.²⁵ Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.²⁶ Shall I not drink the cup which My

¹⁵ Matthew 26:46

¹⁶ Mark 14:43

¹⁷ Luke 22:47

¹⁸ John 18:2

¹⁹ John 18:3

²⁰ Mark 14:44

²¹ Matthew 26:49

²² Luke 22:48

²³ John 18:4-9

²⁴ Luke 22:49

²⁵ John 18:10

²⁶ Matthew 26:52

Father has given Me?²⁷ Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?²⁸ Permit even this.” And He touched his ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and the elders who had come to Him, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.²⁹ But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.” Then they all forsook Him and fled. Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body. And the young men laid hold of him, and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.³⁰

Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him.³¹ They led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who gave counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.³² Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. And those who had laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. Simon Peter followed Jesus at a distance,³³ and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in.³⁴

Now as Peter was below in the courtyard,³⁵ the servant girl who kept the door,³⁶ saw Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with Jesus of Nazareth,³⁷ Jesus the Galilean.³⁸” But he denied it before them all,³⁹ saying, “Woman, I do not know him,⁴⁰ I neither know nor understand what

²⁷ John 18:11b

²⁸ Matthew 26:53,54

²⁹ Luke 22:52,53

³⁰ Mark 14:49b-52

³¹ John 18:12

³² John 18:13,14

³³ Matthew 26:57,58a

³⁴ John 18:15,16

³⁵ Mark 14:66

³⁶ John 18:17

³⁷ Mark 14:67

³⁸ Matthew 26:69b

³⁹ Matthew 26:70a

you are saying.” And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed.⁴¹

Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself. The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him, “I spoke openly to the world, I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. “Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said.” And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, “Do You answer the high priest like that?” Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?”⁴² Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself, ⁴³and the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by, “This is one of them., ⁴⁴this fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth.”⁴⁵ Therefore they said to him, “You are not also one of His disciples, are you?” ⁴⁶But again he denied with an oath,⁴⁷ and said, “I am not!”⁴⁸ ”I do not know what you are saying.”⁴⁹ Then after about an hour had passed, another,⁵⁰ one of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, “Did I not see you in the garden with Him?”⁵¹ “Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it.”⁵² Then he began to curse and swear, saying, “I do not know the Man!”⁵³ ”Man, I do not know what you are saying!” A second time the rooster crowed.⁵⁴ And

⁴⁰ Luke 22:57b

⁴¹ Mark 14:68

⁴² John 18:18-23

⁴³ John 18:25

⁴⁴ Mark 14:69

⁴⁵ Matthew 26:71

⁴⁶ John 18:25

⁴⁷ Matthew 26:72

⁴⁸ John 18:25

⁴⁹ Matthew 26:70

⁵⁰ Luke 22:59

⁵¹ John 18:26

⁵² Mark 14:70

⁵³ Matthew 26:74

⁵⁴ Mark 14:71,72a

the Lord turned and looked at Peter.⁵⁵ Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” And when he thought about it, he wept.⁵⁶

As soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together and led Him into their council.⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.’” But not even then did their testimony agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, “Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?” But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him,⁵⁸ saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”⁵⁹ But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will by no means believe. “And if I also ask you, you will by no means answer Me or let Me go.⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, “It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”⁶¹ Then they all said, “Are You then the Son of God?” So He said to them, “You rightly say that I am.”⁶²

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? “You have heard the blasphemy!⁶³ For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth.⁶⁴ What do you think?” They answered and said, “He is deserving of death.”⁶⁵ Then they spat in His face, ⁶⁶and having blindfolded Him,⁶⁷ struck Him with the palms of their hands, and to say to Him,⁶⁸ ”Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is

⁵⁵ Luke 22:61a

⁵⁶ Mark 14:72b

⁵⁷ Luke 22:64-66

⁵⁸ Mark 14:55-61

⁵⁹ Matthew 26:63b

⁶⁰ Luke 22:67,68

⁶¹ Matthew 26:64

⁶² Luke 22:70

⁶³ Matthew 26:65

⁶⁴ Luke 22:71

⁶⁵ Matthew 26:66

⁶⁶ Matthew 26:67

⁶⁷ Luke 22:64

⁶⁸ Mark 14:65

the one who struck You?”⁶⁹ And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.⁷⁰

Then the whole multitude of them arose,⁷¹ bound Jesus,⁷² led Him away from Caiaphas to the Praetorium,⁷³ and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor.⁷⁴ It was early morning, but they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover.⁷⁵

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” And they said, “What is that to us? You see to it!” Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood.” And they consulted together and bought with them the potter’s field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, “and gave them for the potter’s field, as the LORD directed me.”⁷⁶

Pilate then went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this Man?” They answered and said to him, “If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you.” Then Pilate said to them, “You take Him and judge Him according to your law.” Therefore the Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,” that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die.⁷⁷ And they began to accuse Him, saying, “We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.”⁷⁸

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered him, “Are you speaking for yourself

⁶⁹ Matthew 26:68

⁷⁰ Mark 14:65

⁷¹ Luke 23:1

⁷² Mark 15:1

⁷³ John 18:28

⁷⁴ Matthew 27:2

⁷⁵ John 18:28

⁷⁶ Matthew 27:3-10

⁷⁷ John 18:29-32

⁷⁸ Luke 23:2

about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world, if My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?” Jesus answered, “You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, “I find no fault in Him at all.”⁷⁹

And the chief priests accused Him of many things,⁸⁰ but He answered nothing. Then Pilate said to Him, “Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?” But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly.⁸¹ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no fault in this Man.” But they were the more fierce, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place.”⁸²

When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. And as soon as he knew that He belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. Then he questioned Him with many words, but He answered him nothing. And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him. Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent Him back to Pilate. That very day Pilate and Herod became friends with each other, for before that they had been at enmity with each other.

Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, said to them, “You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him; “no, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him; and indeed nothing worthy of death has been done by Him. “I will therefore chastise Him and release Him.”⁸³

⁷⁹ John 18:33-39

⁸⁰ Mark 15:3

⁸¹ Matthew 27:13,14

⁸² Luke 23:4,5

⁸³ Luke 23:6-16

Now at the feast he was accustomed to releasing one prisoner to them, whomever they requested, and there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had committed murder in the rebellion. Then the multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do just as he had always done for them. But Pilate answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.⁸⁴ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.”

But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” They said, “Barabbas!” Pilate said to them, “What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said to him, “Let Him be crucified!”⁸⁵

Pilate, therefore, wishing to release Jesus, again called out to them. But they shouted, saying, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” Then he said to them the third time, “Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him. I will therefore chastise Him and let Him go.” But they were insistent, demanding with loud voices that He be crucified. And the voices of these men and of the chief priests prevailed. When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it.” And all the people answered and said, “His blood be on us and on our children.”⁸⁶

So Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they requested. And he released to them the one they requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; but he delivered Jesus to their will.⁸⁷ When he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.⁸⁸

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand, and began to salute Him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

⁸⁴ Mark 15:6-10

⁸⁵ Matthew 27:19-22

⁸⁶ Matthew 27:24,25

⁸⁷ Luke 23:18-25

⁸⁸ Matthew 27:26

Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.⁸⁹ And they struck Him with their hands.⁹⁰ Pilate then went out again, and said to them, “Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him.” Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, “Behold the Man!” Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.” Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, “Where are You from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, “Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?” Jesus answered, “You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.”

From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, “If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar’s friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.” When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour (noon). And he said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”⁹¹ Then when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.⁹²

And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull,⁹³ (in Hebrew)⁹⁴ they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink. Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: “*They divided My garments among the, and for My clothing they cast*

⁸⁹ Matthew 27:27-30

⁹⁰ John 19:3

⁹¹ John 19:4-16

⁹² Matthew 27:31

⁹³ Matthew 27:33

⁹⁴ John 19:17

*lots.” Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there.*⁹⁵

Now it was the third hour (12:00p.m.), and they crucified Him.⁹⁶ There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”⁹⁷ Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘He said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’”” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.” Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,” that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: *“They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.”* Therefore the soldiers did these things.⁹⁸

There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and Salome, who also followed Him and ministered to Him when He was in Galilee; and many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.⁹⁹ Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” and from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.¹⁰⁰

Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, “He saved others; Himself He cannot

⁹⁵ Matthew 27:34-36

⁹⁶ Mark 15:25

⁹⁷ Luke 23: 32-34

⁹⁸ John 19:19-24

⁹⁹ Mark 40: 40-41

¹⁰⁰ John 19:25-27

save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. “He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing.¹⁰¹ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.”¹⁰² Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.” But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? “And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”¹⁰³

Now from the sixth hour (12:00pm) until the ninth hour (3:00pm) there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, “This Man is calling for Elijah!” Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. The rest said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.”¹⁰⁴ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!”¹⁰⁵ And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit,’”¹⁰⁶ and bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.¹⁰⁷

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

¹⁰¹ Matthew 27: 38-44

¹⁰² Luke 23:36,37

¹⁰³ Luke 23:39-43

¹⁰⁴ Matthew 27: 45-49

¹⁰⁵ John 19:28-30a

¹⁰⁶ Luke 23:46

¹⁰⁷ John 19:30b

So when the centurion¹⁰⁸ (who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last)¹⁰⁹ and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God!”¹¹⁰

So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, “Certainly this was a righteous Man!” And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things...¹¹¹

To contact me, write:

Gary Tomás Panell, 1211 Pollock Avenue, Zillah, WA 98953 or

email me at admin@gtpanell.com.

© 2003 by Gary T. Panell

This article may be freely copied and distributed.

¹⁰⁸ Matthew 27:51-54a

¹⁰⁹ Mark 15:39

¹¹⁰ Matthew 27:54b

¹¹¹ Luke 23:47-49