

## John 19:31-42

**John 19:31; 41-42** *“The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away... (41) Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. (42) There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.”*

- A. It is the preparation for the Sabbath (**Luke 23:56**).
  - 1. Even when the Lord fed Israel miraculously, He gave them their food for the Sabbath the day before (**Exodus 16:11-30**).
  - 2. As Christians, we should consider how we too should set aside some time to prepare ourselves for our worship to God (**I Corinthians 11:27-32, Ephesians 4:23, Colossians 3:2, and James 4:8**).
- B. It being the day before the Sabbath (**Mark 15:42**)...
  - 1. If these Jews were going to properly observe the Sabbath they would not have been able to bury Jesus on the Sabbath (**Exodus 20:10, Exodus 31:14-15, Exodus 35:2, and Jeremiah 17:22**).
  - 2. When you study the accounts of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection you find that they do not come to Jesus' grave until the first day of the week (**Mark 16:1-2 and Luke 24:1**).
  - 3. These are good reasons to bury Jesus nearby in a new sepulchre (vs. **41-42**).

**John 19:32-37** *“(32) Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. (33) But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: (34) But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. (35) And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. (36) For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. (37) And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.”*

- A. Sabbath Day or not, they could not leave Jesus hanging (**Deuteronomy 21:22-23**).
  - 1. To fulfill the Scriptures, no bone of Jesus was broken (possibly in reference to **Psalms 34:20**) and they looked on Him whom they pierced (**Psalms 22:16-17**).
  - 2. This is an eyewitness testimony (**Acts 1:8, Acts 3:15, I Peter 5:1, and I John 1:1-3**) confirming the things that occurred (**Hebrews 2:3**).
- B. This is when Jesus' blood was shed (**I Peter 1:18-19**).
  - 1. We needed Jesus' blood to be shed (**Ephesians 2:11-17 and Hebrews 9:22-10:18**).
  - 2. We are made clean through the blood of Christ (**Hebrews 9:14, I John 1:7, and Revelation 1:5**).

**John 19:38-40** *“(38) And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. (39) And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. (40) Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. (39) And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. (40) Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.”*

A. The disciple of our Lord, Joseph of Arimathaea, claimed and cared for the dead body of our Savior (**Matthew 27:57-60** and **Mark 15:42-45**).

1. It is wrong to be ashamed of Jesus (**Luke 9:26**) or to deny Jesus (**Matthew 10:32-33**, **II Timothy 2:12**, and **I John 2:23**).
2. Yet, we should never conclude that one who is cautious is denying Jesus or is a coward (**Matthew 10:23**, **Acts 8:1-4**, and **Acts 9:24-25**).
3. Joseph was not a denier of our Lord; but rather a good, just man (**Luke 23:50**).
  - a. There were those who would not confess Christ for fear (**John 9:18-22** and **John 12:42-43**).
  - b. While Joseph came in secret to Pilate, he did not allow fear to keep him from acting. Jesus had previously acted in such a way as well (**John 7:1-10**).

B. Nicodemus, who previously came to Jesus by night (**John 3:1-21**), came to help with the dead body of Jesus too.

1. Nicodemus knew that Jesus wasn't just some man claiming great things (**John 3:2**).
2. Nicodemus had SOMEWHAT defended our Lord some time before Jesus ultimately being put to death (**John 7:45-53**).

C. They prepared the body of Jesus for burial (**Mark 15:46-47** and **Luke 23:56**).

1. Winding up a dead body in linen was customary (**Acts 5:5-6**).
2. When Lazarus was raised from the dead, he was bound in “graveclothes” and had a napkin over his face (**John 11:43-44**).
3. When Jesus was raised from the dead, they found these things left behind (**John 20:4-7**).