

The Final Fight

Joseph Carty / General

Friend of Jesus / Golgotha; Crucifixion; Soldiers helping the Crucifixion; Women at the Crucifixion; Jesus' crucifixion; Jesus' Death / Matthew 27:31–53; Mark 14:20–38; Luke 23:26–46; John 19:16–30

Its hard to find words to describe the greatest act of selflessness the universe has ever seen. For the creator, the infinite potentate to allow Himself to be murdered by His "religious people" in the name of God sounds completely crazy... And so it is...

“The insect world may have found its ‘Mom of the Year’ in the female *Stegodyphus lineatus*,” reports Walt Bonner for Fox News. “It’s a desert spider that feeds herself to her young shortly after they’re hatched”—a practice which is known as matrophagy:

Found in the semi-arid regions of Israel and other parts of the Mediterranean basin as well as throughout the Near East and Asia Minor, the female *Stegodyphus* spins her webs in shrubbery. ... Inside the web, she creates a silk disc that contains 70 to 80 eggs, while her intestine tissues begin to dissolve. When the “spiderlings” hatch, she pierces the silk disc, allowing the babies to emerge. ...

“At this time a liquid has already accumulated in her gut, allowing her to start regurgitating to her young,” said Mor Salomon of the Israel Cohen Institute for Biological Control. “While she regurgitates, the process in her intestine intensifies and the liquid formed probably travels back through her intestinal tube to her mouth where she secretes it for her young.”

The babies crawl all over her head, trying to get at the liquid that is leaking from her face. She makes no attempt to escape as her young eventually pierce her soft abdomen with their mouths before feasting on the liquefied guts inside. This process takes a few hours, at the end of which their mom (otherwise known as “dinner”) is officially dead.

In the end, the mother has given all but 4 percent of her body mass to her

young, who leave her heart alone. Thanks, kids!

Via Dolorosa

Pick up the story

- where we left off

Matthew 27:31 **ESV**

And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

- See Him
 - beaten twice
 - abused
 - sin of world
 - cross laid on him

Desire of Ages Chapter 78—Calvary

But when after the second scourging the cross was laid upon Him, human nature could bear no more. He fell fainting beneath the burden.

- He couldn't carry it.

- Need a man to carry.
- None but Simon
 - looked with pity.

Matthew 27:32 ESV

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross.

- Instrument of
 - torture
 - shame
- Passover beginning
 - that evening
 - nobody would help.
- Million People
 - in town for feast

- News spread
 - Jesus' Condemnation
- Jesus walking
 - down the street.

Luke 23:27 ESV

And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him.

- People watching
 - women crying.
 - seeing His abuse.
- Jesus response
 - is surprising:

Luke 23:28–31 ESV

But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

- In His
 - trial
 - crucifixion
- Jesus sees
 - Destruction of Jerusalem
 - End of World
- They were confused.
- They believed that
 - if they don't destroy
 - Jesus then
 - Romans destroy them.

John 11:48 *ESV*

If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

- Jesus knows
 - the sure result

- of Israel's path.
- They reject their God.
- God rejects them.
- Romans destroy city.
- The abuse of Jesus
 - prefigures the abuses
 - against His followers
 - at then end of world.
- If they do this in green
 - what about dry???
- Jesus predicted it this way:

John 15:19–20 **ESV**

If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

- Just before us lies,
 - some hard times.
- These same ruthless
 - abuses
 - demon possessed crowds
 - are coming back.
- Again, people of God
 - endure same abuses

Golgotha

John 19:17 **ESV**

and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.

- Paraded through town.
- Walk of 0.5 miles
- Hill out of the gate

Hebrews 13:12 **ESV**

So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people

through his own blood.

- Mark Adds

Mark 15:25 *ESV*

And it was the third hour when they crucified him.

- It was only
 - 9 am when he
 - was nailed to cross
- Many,
 - not heard new yet.
 - arrested middle of night
 - night trial,
 - sanhedrin
 - Pilate
 - Herod
 - Pilate
- They wanted to

- get condemnation
- before everyone knew.

Two Criminals

Luke 23:33–34 **ESV**

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.

- See your Lord,
 - being stretched out
 - on the wooden cross
 - roughly handled
 - hands and feet pierced
 - cross lifted
 - fall into hole
 - intense agony

- What does he say?
- Criminals on each side
 - Offense
 - Shame
- Isaiah predicted:

[Isaiah 53:12](#) (ESV)

... and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many...

[Isaiah 53:9](#) (ESV)

And they made his grave with the wicked...

- Statement against Jesus
 - midst of wicked people
 - because He is wicked!
- Funny because

- where Jesus loved to be.
- groups of sinners...

2 Corinthians 5:21 ESV

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- Embraced sin
- to save us.

The Sign

Matthew 27:37 ESV

And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

- Jews get angry

John 19:21–22 ESV

So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’ ” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

- Pilate upset

- he gave in to them.
- Sign of truth
- He was king
- chief cornerstone
 - that was rejected!

The Mockery

Mark 15:29–32 ESV

And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!” So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

- Crowd mocked
- Chief Priests mocked
- Satan knew

- could still sin
- could still win
- If Jesus could
 - become offended
 - yell back
 - use divine power
 - give up
 - He would fail.
- Thief mocked him

Luke 23:39 ESV

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

Thief on the Cross

- One good thing
 - thief comes to faith
- Sees Jesus’ abuse

- sees mockery
- sees forgiveness
- He is God

Luke 23:40–42 ESV

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.”

- Hear our Savior
 - listening to sinners.
 - speaking words of love.
 - encouraging others
 - while He is dying!

[Luke 23:43](#) (ESV)

And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, ‘today, you will be with me in paradise.’”

- Our God,
 - thinking of others
 - forgiving others
 - His work of love.

› Did not God to heaven that day.

Desire of Ages Chapter 78—Calvary

Men may exercise power over His human body. They may pierce the holy temples with the crown of thorns. They may strip from Him His raiment, and quarrel over its division. But they cannot rob Him of His power to forgive sins.

- Jews hated him
 - for claiming to be God
 - forgiving sins.
- While they kill him.
 - still doing it!
 - still God!

His Mother

John 19:25–27 ESV

but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

- Jesus thinking
 - about His mother
 - not Himself
 - provided for.
- Mary lived with John

The Darkness

Luke 23:44–45 ESV

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

- Noon.

- Supernatural Darkness

Desire of Ages Chapter 78—Calvary

The sun refused to look upon the awful scene. Its full, bright rays were illuminating the earth at midday, when suddenly it seemed to be blotted out. Complete darkness, like a funeral pall, enveloped the cross. “There was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.” There was no eclipse or other natural cause for this darkness, which was as deep as midnight without moon or stars. It was a miraculous testimony given by God that the faith of after generations might be confirmed.

- God hid His face.
- Inanimate nature
 - cannot watch!
 - sun refuses to shine!

Love or Hate?

In a series of articles on the greatest acts of revenge, grunge.com writes,

Mariya Oktyabrskaya was a telephone operator, the wife of a Soviet army officer, and the proud owner of a T-34 tank, with which she used to kill enough Nazis in World War II to earn her the title of "Hero of the Soviet Union." After the outbreak of war, Mariya was evacuated to Siberia, while her husband went off to fight. He was killed almost immediately, though

the news didn't reach Mariya until nearly two years later. Driven by rage, and with nothing left to lose, Mariya sold her house and belongings in exchange for a T-34, which she donated to the Soviet Union under the condition that she be the one to drive it.

... Though her unit was initially skeptical of what they saw as nothing more than a publicity stunt, their opinions quickly changed after her first battle, in which she eliminated numerous machine gun nests, artillery guns, and the Nazis who manned them. When her tank was hit and immobilized by heavy enemy fire, she immediately jumped out to repair it. For this action, she was promoted to Sergeant, though "**Goddess of Steel**" might have been more apropos.

Unfortunately, after many battles and many dead Germans, her luck caught up with her in January of 1944. She was killed during a battle near the village of Shvedy, while making yet more repairs to her immobilized tank. She did not, however, die before eliminating several machine gun nests, trenches, a self-propelled gun, and yet more Nazis for good measure.

- Story of Calvary
 - you choose
 - how it impacts you.
- Some
 - nothing
 - angry
 - transform you

- for good.

Jesus Cries Out

Mark 15:34 ESV

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

- 3 pm.
- Calling for Elijah?
- Separation from Father
 - He cannot bear.

Desire of Ages (Chapter 80—In Joseph’s Tomb)

But it was not the spear thrust, it was not the pain of the cross, that caused the death of Jesus... He died of a broken heart. His heart was broken by mental anguish. He was slain by the sin of the world.

- Second death

- wrath of God
- unmixed with mercy
- weight of sin

John 19:28–29 ESV

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

- Thirsty...
- Vinegar
- Jesus refused
- It was predicted

Psalms 69:21 ESV

They gave me poison for food,

and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.

- Does he drink it?

[John 19:30](#) (ESV)

When Jesus had received the sour wine...

- Sounds like he took it.
- Jesus refused it earlier.

Matthew 27:34 ESV

they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

- Did he drink it or not.

-

Desire of Ages Chapter 78—Calvary

those who suffered death by the cross, it was permitted to give a stupefying potion, to deaden the sense of pain. This was offered to Jesus; but when He had tasted it, He refused it. He would receive nothing that could becloud His mind. His faith must keep fast hold upon God. This was His only strength. To becloud His senses would give Satan an advantage.

- Argument could be made.
 - medicinal
 - should take it.
 - He refuses...
- We should refuse too.
 - No good reason, alcohol.
 - Be careful with
 - “Medications...”

Final Words

John 19:30 ESV

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

- “It is Finished”

Luke 23:46 ESV

Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

It Is Finished

- What is finished
 - World?
 - Great Controversy?
 - Satan?

No!

- 1st phase
 - of the atonement
 - Daily Service

- What is left
 - Yearly Service
- Cleansing of His People.

The Profession

- Not normal day
 - everyone witnessed it
 - Priests fled darkness
 - veil torn
 - earthquake
- Forced from lips
 - unsuspecting

Matthew 27:54 **ESV**

When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over

Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

- Today,
 - we must have response
 - must respond
 - to this story.

In 2005, a man named John Brandick went to the doctor with troubling symptoms. The hospital performed some tests, told him he had terminal pancreatic cancer and only one year to live. When Mr. Brandick heard this news, he decided it was time to live the good life. He quit his job. He sold his home. He sold his car and most of his clothing. He started spending his life savings. He traveled. He ate at expensive restaurants. He splurged.

About a year later, around the time he was supposed to die, he went back to the hospital to find out why he was doing so well. It turned out, he didn't have cancer after all. He merely had an inflammation of the pancreas. He was not dying. He was going to live!

Think for a moment how you would respond if you thought you were going to die of cancer and then found out you were cancer free! Mr. Brandick's response? He sued the hospital for misdiagnosing him!

- Saved from death!
 - sued???

- We saved from death...
 - our response???
- Centurion
 - This is God!!!
- What does this all
 - mean to you?
- Will you allow
 - this to change your life?

