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&
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He Died Alone

*“...Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross,
despising the shame,...that you may not
grow weary and lose heart.”*
(Hebrews 12:2, 3 *)

As the man read the words from an old publication, the Holy Spirit led him to stop and reflect on the article he was reading. The writing mentioned a hymn that contained the words, “He (Jesus) could have called 10,000 angels, BUT he died alone...for you...and me.” One could spend a lifetime trying to understand the great love shown to all mankind by the greatest sacrificial act ever performed!



The Highest Authority in the Heaven of Heavens was willing to manifest Himself on Earth, and to take all that men could heap upon Him in the flesh. We are told Jesus suffered every hate, shame, humiliation, deceit, and bribe that the evil one could gather to get Him to change God's Plan.

“And it came about, when the days were approaching for His ascension that He (Jesus) resolutely set His face to go to Jerusalem...” (Luke 9:51 *) Jesus knew the end of His life was near; it was almost time for Him to return to His place. God’s timetable to redeem mankind was nearing its pinnacle. The greatest moment in history was going to happen soon!

The account in Luke goes on to tell about the disciples’ attempt to make arrangements at the next village. Two of the disciples were ready to call the fire down from heaven to consume the ones who stood in the way of their travel plans.

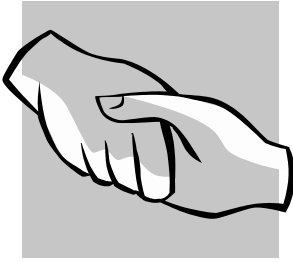
Jesus told them, *“You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”* (Luke 9:55, 56 *) The plan to redeem men was not to be changed. There is hope for anyone reading if they are willing to humble themselves and follow Jesus as He calls them. Thank God!

Although Jesus’ cross was surrounded by others condemned to die, he died alone. One pauses to reflect on one’s own mortality. We are told that, *“it is appointed for men to die once”* (Hebrews 9:27 *) There will come a time for us all to leave the earthly body in which we live. Some say we are trapped here!

Jesus accepted this by bowing his head quietly and giving up His spirit. Note John 19:30. After His spirit left the body, Our Savior knew the body would be handled in the custom of His day. It will be the same for us. Oh, the friends and relatives may come to “pay their last respects”, but we will not be there.

Your servant has witnessed the concerns of those approaching the thing we call death; i.e., the separating of the spirit from the body.

Some have approached it with trembling, dread, and fear. Hands have reached out with a “death grip” as the last breath is taken, the spirit wanting to remain where it was.



Others, as Jesus did, quietly and peacefully slipped away, as God's Words came to mind.

A common thread was the unknown. No one, since Jesus, who ever died, has come back to tell others about the experience. There are some who have experienced what scholars call "near death" and report either great fear or a peaceful scene. Some have "seen" light as they temporarily left the body and other have "seen" darkness as the spirit returned to the body.

When that hour comes, we may be alone, or we may be surrounded by those who care, but we will die alone as the body gives up its hold on our spirits. The thing we will take with us is the work that God has performed in our spirit. Oh, may we be ready for our next assignment. As someone said recently, God is preparing us for what He has prepared for us.

Almighty God planned from the very beginning that He would become the personage of Jesus and come to Earth, clothed in a body of flesh. He would provide the only perfect sacrifice necessary to redeem the world and to save us from ourselves. Friend, Jesus' sacrifice provides hope for anyone who reads this publication, *"That the world should be saved through Him."* (John 3:17 *)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him." (John 3:16, 17 *)

The question for each of us is not so much as to why there was a Jesus, but rather, what we do with what He did for us. Jesus is and was many things to many men.



Jesus was a stranger to the witnesses during the "kangaroo trial". Their false accusations would be accepted and well paid.

To the Pharisees, Jesus was a Voice from God they could not answer.

To the leadership of the church, Jesus was the scapegoat for their failures.

To the disciple Judas, Jesus was a hostage worth thirty pieces of silver.

To the governor, Jesus was a "hot potato" to be handed off to others.

To others in the church, Jesus was one to be silenced because He was showing men to walk in "The" way.

To some, Jesus was, and is today, a way to gain wealth by peddling wares in His name. May God have mercy!

What is Jesus to us? What will we do with Him?

Despite all that Jesus accomplished in His lifetime, at the end, most denied they knew Jesus. He died alone...for you...and me. The immeasurable love of Almighty God was manifest through Jesus. He stands ready to be with us when our time comes.

In the meanwhile, it may be wise to remember that He died alone that we may live!

Comments by Harry Bain

* New American Standard Bible; i.e., NASB