

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 01 Dec 2013 John 12 Live Selflessly
- 2) 08 Dec John 13 Serve Humbly
- 3) 15 Dec John 14 Believe Exclusively
- 4) 22 Dec Luke 1-2 Christmas Message
- 5) 29 Dec John 15:1-25 Stay Open and Obedient
- 6) 05 Jan 2014 John 15:26 – 16:33 Depend on the Spirit
- 7) 12 Jan John 17 Honor Jesus
- 8) 19 Jan Psalm 139 Value Every Life
- 9) 26 Jan John 18:1-27 Our Messiah - Abused
- 10) 02 Feb John 18:28-40; 19:1-16 Our King - Condemned
- 11) 09 Feb John 19:17-42 **Our Savior - Crucified**
- 12) 16 Feb John 20 Live in Resurrection Power
- 13) 23 Feb John 21 Follow with Renewed Purpose

INTRODUCTION

- Scriptures help us examine and understand the Crucifixion from many angles – before it happened, after it happened, as it happened, and after it happened – Assuring us that Christ Lord and Savior, and is worthy of our utmost devotion

#	Over 300 Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled	Passage
1.	Darkness over the land	Amos 8:9
2.	He was crucified with criminals	Isaiah 53:12
3.	Silent to accusations	Isaiah 53:7
4.	Buried with the rich	Isaiah 53:9
5.	My God, my God why have you forsaken me?	Psalms 22:1
6.	He was thirsty during execution	Psalm 22:16
7.	His body was pierced	Psalms 22:16
8.	Soldiers gambled for his garment	Psalm 22:18
9.	No bones broken	Psalm 34:20
10.	Accused by false witnesses	Psalms 35:11
11.	Betrayed by a friend	Psalms 41:9
12.	He was given vinegar and gall for thirst	Psalm 69:21
13.	Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Zech 11:12
14.	30 pieces of silver given for the potter's field	Zech 11:12
15.	Side pierced	Zech 12:10
16.	Forsaken by His disciples	Zech 13:7

Do we have any unequivocal, absolute, scientific proof for God? Yes we do! Consider the scientific laws of mathematical probability: The odds of only 8 of these Messianic prophecies being fulfilled in one person is at least 1x10²⁸. For any more prophecies to be fulfilled would astronomically be impossible for them to refer to any other person than Jesus Christ. Since Jesus is true, so is the whole Bible!

The basic "law of probability" states that the occurrence of any event in which the chances are beyond one in one followed by 50 zeroes (1x10⁵⁰), is an event we can state with certainty that will never happen, no matter how much time is allotted and no matter how many conceivable opportunities could exist for the event to take place

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- The crucifixion of Christ impacted people differently: The soldiers could care less; the Jews were in an uproar over little things like a sign; John stepped up to assume a financial burden (Mary); and Joseph and Nicodemus were moved to "go public" with their faith.
- How has the Cross impacted us? Are we nervous and timid, or bold and courageous? Are we willing to give up what is precious to us such as money, time, prestige, position, and even our lives?

NEXT WEEK: John 20. We explore the empty tomb

Passage	Comments
John 19:17-24	The Crucifixion Fulfilled Scripture • vv19-22. John highlighted the uproar over Pilate's inscription he had put on the cross (4 verses). Why was this significant?
19:25-27	Priorities – Tender Care of Family • Jesus handed the care of His mother over to His dearest friend, John. Why didn't He instruct John to have the new church assume care for His widowed mother? Why not to his half brothers and sisters?
19:28-37	Finished Work • Eight OT prophecies fulfilled in this chapter, with 4 being recognized in this 10 verses – confirming Christ
19:38-42	Bold and Public Testimony With Few Words Spoken • Joseph & Nicodemus, once fearful, finally put their wealth, their reputation and positions, and their lives on the line for Jesus. Are we ready and willing to do that? • But what about "For whoever is ashamed of Me & My words, I will be ashamed of him on that day"? ... Lk 9:26

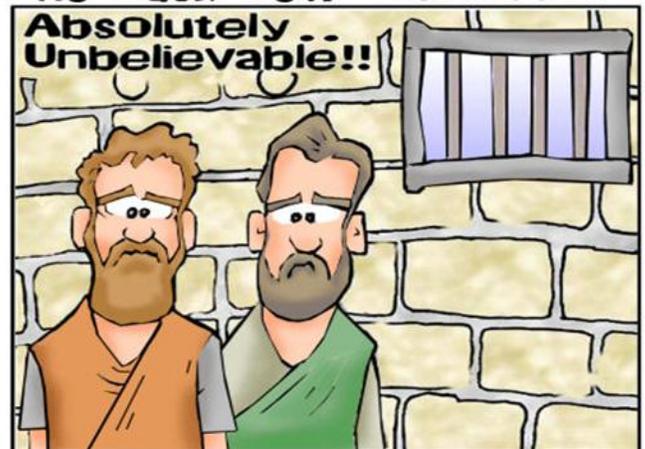
Who was Joseph of Arimathea?

1. His name was Joseph
2. He was good and righteous
3. His home town was Arimathea (unknown location)
4. He looked forward to God's kingdom
5. He was rich – and compassionate enough to give away his own personal tomb to bury a poor man
6. He was a secret disciple (John 19:38), yet bold enough to go to Pilate & risk debarment from the Sanhedrin
7. He did not agree to the death of Jesus, but he could not change the course of events

Who was Nicodemus?

1. He is only mentioned in John 3, 7, and 19
2. He was a "master of Israel, a ruler of the Jews," which means he was a member of the grand Sanhedrin, a Pharisee
3. He was inquisitive, but not bold initially (came to Jesus at night)
4. He recognized Jesus as a teach ("Rabbi") from God
5. He defended Jesus before the Sanhedrin
6. He was wealthy since he was able to buy 100 lbs of "mixture of myrrh and aloes"
7. The apocryphal Gospel of Nicodemus and other apocryphal works narrate that Nicodemus gave evidence in favor of Christ at the trial before Pilate; that he was deprived of office and banished from Jerusalem by the hostile Jews; and that he was baptized by Peter and John.

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



"So, Nicodemus, since we came out of the closet and publically showed our faith in Jesus, and we buried Him, what do we do now?"