



SERMON NOTES

April 24, 2011

Scripture: Matthew 27:57-66 (NAS)

Topic: God's Providence Even in Christ's Death+
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- 57 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.
- 58 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.
- 59 And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,
- 60 and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.
- 61 And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave.
- 62 Now on the next day, the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate,
- 63 and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.'
- 64 "Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first."
- 65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how."
- 66 And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.

I. THE BURIAL OF CHRIST

- A. The Disciples Are Strangely Absent
- B. John's Disciples Had The Courage To Ask For His Body
- C. One Who Was Previously Unknown Took On The Task
 1. We know he was wealthy
 2. He had the clout to gain an audience with Pilate
 3. He had the courage to ask for the body
 4. He was the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy *Isaiah 53:9;*
I Corinthians 15:34

II. WITNESSES TO THE BURIAL

- A. Joseph *John 19:39*
- B. Nicodemus
- C. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of John and James

III. THE PLOT OF THE JEWISH LEADERS

- A. They Fear The Removal Of The Body
- B. They Petition Pilate For A Guard
- C. They Call Christ The Deceiver
- D. They Provide The Strongest Proof Of The Resurrection

IV. GOD'S SOVEREIGN PROVISION OF PROOF