



GRACE CITY
CHURCH

Gospel Community Notes & Questions

Title: The Last Passover

Text: John 19:31-42

Theme: Even the death and burial of Jesus authenticate his identity and mission.

Teaching Notes: Even in the “passive” events of Jesus’ death and burial, God is working. His Old Testament promises and types are being fulfilled. A fountain of spiritual cleansing is being opened up. And Jesus is going into death and the grave ahead of us to fundamentally transform the nature of those things.

Outline:

1. The death and burial of Jesus are about fulfillment.

- a. The perfect sacrifice could not have broken bones.
- b. God himself would be pierced for the cleansing of His people.
- c. The Messiah would be associated with a rich man in his death.

2. The death and burial of Jesus are about a fountain.

- a. Blood is a fountain of atonement.
- b. Water is a fountain of cleansing.

3. The death and burial of Jesus are about function.

- a. They function to tell us God has already gone into death and the grave to change the very nature of these things.
- b. They function to tell us God can do more than inspire you.

4. The death and burial of Jesus are about faith.

- John explicitly invites his readers to believe in Jesus Christ.



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Questions on John 19:31-42 to explore individually and with your group:

1. What are some ways Jesus was like the Passover lambs of the Old Testament? How is that type-fulfillment relevant to you today?
2. What is the significance of Jesus' side being pierced after his death? [See Isaiah 53:5; Zechariah 12:10; 13:1]
3. What additional prophecy of the Old Testament is fulfilled in connection with the burial of Jesus simply because all of his disciples abandoned him? In what way can that be an encouragement to you even when you fail the Lord?
4. What is the theological significance of the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' pierced side?
5. Have you ever received pardon/forgiveness without cleansing? Or cleansing without pardon/forgiveness? What happened? How did it feel, or how did it impact you, to have one without the other?
6. How does Jesus' death and burial transform the way you think about your own – or that of a loved one who trusted in Christ?
7. What are some practical differences between being inspired by someone/thing and being empowered? What actual power can you draw on because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection? How would you get that "in you"?
8. Even though Jesus was completely passive in this text of Scripture – because he was dead – what are some ways God was still working?
9. What is something in your life where you feel hopeless, powerless, or like you've reached a dead end? How does this text speak to that circumstance? What will you think or do differently now that you see that connection to this story?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this Scripture?

Prayer Prompts:

1. Praise the Lord for giving his life as a fountain of eternal and infinite atonement and cleansing.
2. Confess what guilt you need to have forgiven and what uncleanness you need to have washed away.
3. Ask God to both inspire and empower you through the story of Jesus' courage and conviction, even to the point of death on a cross.