THE DEATH OF JESUS

Matthew 27:32–66

Key Verse: 27:46

1. List the things the soldiers did when they crucified Jesus (32–36). Why did they offer him wine mixed with gall, and why did he refuse it? Why did they divide up his clothes by casting lots? What written charge against him did they place above his head, and why? What prophecies were being fulfilled, and why is this important? (Ps69:21; 22:18)
2. Why did they crucify him in between two rebels? (37) How did people insult him? (39,40; cf. Ps22:7) How did the religious leaders and rebels mock and insult him? (41–44; cf. Ps22:8)
3. What unusual thing happened, and what did it symbolize? (45) Read verse 46; compare with Psalm 22:1. What does this tell us about Jesus? What does it mean to us that he was being “forsaken” by God? (2Co5:21; Heb10:22) How did some misunderstand his words and make fun of him? (47–49)
4. How is the death of Jesus described? (50) What happened to the temple curtain, and why? (51a) What happened to the tombs of some holy people? (51b–53) How did the centurion and his companions respond to all this, and why? (54) What women were watching, and why? (55,56)
5. What did Joseph from Arimathea do, and what does it show about him? (57–60) What women witnessed it? (61) What were the religious leaders afraid of, and how did they try to stop it? (62–66)