

## LESSON 19 -CALVARY'S MOUNTAIN SHADOWS KINGDOM HIGHWAY

**Matthew - Mark - Luke - John**

**THEME:** *To teach the identification of believers with Christ in death and resurrection.*

We are coming closer and closer to the first mountain peak which the Prophets saw. It is called MOUNT CALVARY. In our last lesson we saw John preparing the way for the King by calling the Israelites to repentance and baptism. Then we saw a strange thing as the Saviour submitted Himself to water baptism, where Jesus showed Himself to be one with His people. He *identified Himself with His people*. Today we will see that Christ had another baptism upon Mount Calvary, a baptism without water as John had baptised Him, but *a baptism into death*.

Shortly before His entrance into Jerusalem riding upon the colt, Jesus asked His disciples: "Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?" Matthew 16:13-19 speaks about this. Christ called the believing Israelites His church. Matthew 16:18. The word 'church' means *a called out group*. In the Kingdom Israel will be a nation of priests to lead the Gentiles to Christ the King. Such a separated group will be a church. The Kingdom Church was to be built upon Christ Himself, who is the chief cornerstone, and Peter was given the keys to open the way into the Kingdom and to invite others in.

Shortly after Christ made this promise to Peter, He began to reveal that He must first die, before the Kingdom could be established. Matthew 16:21. In Matthew 20:20-23 Christ spoke of His coming suffering and death as a baptism. It was His *death baptism*. Luke 12:50. The time was coming closer and closer when the Saviour-King was to suffer His death baptism.

One day Jesus said to the disciples: "You know that after two days is the Feast of the Passover (the remembrance of the PASSOVER on PROMISE ROAD) and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified." Matthew 26:1-2. As Jesus and the disciples ate the Passover feast, Jesus said: "One of you will betray Me." Matthew 26:21-25. After they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives, to the Garden of Gethsemane. It was there that Jesus prayed: "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me." Matthew 26:36-45.

While He was speaking, the soldiers came, led by the disciple Judas

Iscariot, to arrest Him. Matthew 26:47-56. Jesus was brought before Caiaphas, the high priest, and was falsely accused. Matthew 26:57-68. Then Jesus was brought before Pilate who asked, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered: "It is as you say." The soldiers put a scarlet robe on Him and a crown of thorns upon His head, and a reed in His hand. Then they mocked Him, shouting, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on Him and hit Him on the head. All was happening just as the Prophets had prophesied the suffering on MOUNT CALVARY.

Finally they forced Jesus up to the Place of the Skull, Golgotha, gave Him vinegar and gall, and nailed Him to the cross. Matthew 27:33-37. The soldiers put above His head a sign which read: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS!

Two thieves were crucified beside Jesus. One of them chose the way of life, the other the way of death. The repentant thief called out, "Remember me!" while the other mocked. Luke 23:39-45. Then Jesus called out, "It is finished!" and yielded up His spirit. John 19:30. That evening Joseph of Arimathea begged Pilate for Jesus' body and laid it in his new tomb. A great stone was rolled into the doorway of the tomb-cave. Matthew 27:57-60. The promised King was dead and the rulers of Israel thought they were rid of Jesus forever.

One day passed, a second day passed, and early on the third day the tomb was opened--our Saviour had risen from the dead! Matthew 28:1-6.

Did Jesus deserve to die? No. The wages of sin is death, but Jesus never sinned. He could have lived forever, but we see:

1. It was *our sins* which nailed Jesus to the cross. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. He carried our sins and wore the scarlet robe of humility so that we might wear a robe of righteousness.
2. Jesus wore a *crown of thorns* so that we might wear a crown of righteousness. 2 Timothy 4:8.
3. Jesus *died our death*. Then He arose, and now He gives us His resurrection life. Romans 6:4. When we receive Jesus as Saviour, the Holy Spirit baptises us into the Body of Christ, Christ's Church of today. We are identified with Christ so that His death baptism becomes our baptism, His burial our burial, and His resurrection our resurrection. Thus as new creations in Christ we should walk in newness of life.

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death; in order that as Christ was raised up from the dead through the glory of the Father, even so we too might walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4.

## LESSON 19 - WORK SHEET

The following statements are either True or False. Find the Bible references and write inside the brackets (T) for those that are true, and (F) for those that are false.

1. ( ) The Prophets saw Christ suffering for our sins on Mount Calvary. Psalms 22:16.
2. ( ) Christ spoke of His coming death as a baptism. Matthew 20:22.
3. ( ) Pilate asked Jesus if He was the King of the whole world. Matthew 27:11.
4. ( ) Christ had to die because He sinned. 1 Corinthians 15:3, Hebrews 7:26.
5. ( ) When we receive Christ as Saviour, we are baptised into His death. Romans 6:3-4.
6. ( ) Only the Spirit of Christ arose from the grave. Luke 24:37-39.
7. ( ) We are not only baptised into Christ's death, but we are raised up with Him in newness of life. Romans 6:4.
8. ( ) The baptism of the Holy Spirit makes us members of a church here on the earth. 1 Corinthians 12:13.
9. Write a brief description of the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. Matthew 27:27-50. \_\_\_\_\_  
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10. Write from memory Romans 6:4. \_\_\_\_\_  
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