

What lengths were the religious leaders willing to go to in order to put Jesus to death? Why did they want to Jesus gone? (v. 3, 4; 59-61)

In the end, whose testimony sealed Jesus' fate? (v. 63-65)

The High Priest understood Jesus' statement in v. 64 to be blasphemy. What is the definition of blasphemy? What alternatives do people have to explain Jesus' affirmation that He is the Messiah, the Son of God?

If you had been a witness to the events of this day, what do you think you would have done?

REFLECT

Do you believe that Jesus spoke the truth about Himself? If so, how do you want this truth to shape your observance of Easter this year?

RESPOND

Brainstorm ways that your group or family can celebrate Easter meaningfully this year. Who can you include that needs to be around believers in order to better understand that Jesus is who He claimed to be?

for further reading:

This sermon series is inspired by John Piper's book, *The Passion of Jesus Christ* (Crossway Books, 2004).



OUTLOOK
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
outlookchurch.org
317.335.6815

BRINGING US TOGETHER



15 REASONS WHY JESUS CHOSE TO DIE.

+ TO BECOME OUR ULTIMATE PLACE OF WORSHIP

John 2:19-22

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple He had spoken of was His body. After He was raised from the dead, His disciples recalled what He had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

John Piper

"Kill me, and I will become the global meeting place with God." That's the way I would paraphrase John 2:19-21. They thought Jesus was referring to the temple in Jerusalem...But He was referring to his body. Why did Jesus draw the connection between the Jewish temple and his own body? Because he came to take the place of the temple as the meeting place with God.

John 12:31-33

"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself." He said this to show the kind of death He was going to die.



ROB McCORD

3.14.2010

OUTLOOK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

+TO REDEEM PEOPLE FROM EVERY TRIBE, LANGUAGE, AND NATION

Revelation 5:9

And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slain, and with Your blood You purchased for God members of every tribe and language and people and nation.”

Richard Stearns in *The Hole in Our Gospel*
Embracing the gospel, or good news, proclaimed by Jesus is so much more than a private transaction between God and us...We are the carriers of the Gospel—the good news that was meant to change the world. Belief is not enough. Worship is not enough. Personal morality is not enough. And Christian community is not enough... Living out our faith privately was never meant to be an option.

+TO DESTROY HOSTILITY BETWEEN RACES AND PEOPLES

Ephesians 2:14-16

For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in His flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility.

Something there is that doesn't love a wall...
Mending Wall by
Robert Frost

Galatians 3:26-28

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Racism is sin and completely counter to everything Jesus stood for and died for. In fact, anything that divides people and creates hostility is not of Christ.

The Last Supper and Arrest of Jesus

LIFE GROUP STUDY

RELATE

How does your family celebrate Easter?

Which is more important to you: Christmas or Easter?

What principle, insight, or quote from this sermon was most meaningful to you?

READ

Matthew 26

Which “scene” in this chapter most affects you, and why?

The Woman Anoints Jesus

The Last Supper

Judas Betrays Jesus

Jesus Prays in the Garden

Caiaphas Questions Jesus

Peter Denies Jesus

What was Jesus' behavior and state of mind during these events? How do you explain this?

What evidence do you see that Jesus knew what was going to happen to him? Where did his knowledge come from? (v. 2, 13, 18, 29, 31-34, 50, 54, 56, 64)

If Jesus knew what was going to happen, why didn't He prevent it? Why is it important to you that Jesus knew what his friends and enemies would do?