

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS—PART 4:  
BURIAL OF JESUS' BODY  
(John 19:38-42)

- I. His Body Was CLAIMED by a RICH Man (John 19:38)
  - A. One executed for SEDITION was usually left HANGING
  - B. The BODIES of those executed needed to be removed before DARK
    - 1. Could be claimed by FAMILY and buried OUTSIDE the city
    - 2. Unclaimed bodies were consigned to the FIRES of GEHENNA
  - C. Joseph of Arimathea requested CUSTODY of Jesus' body
    - 1. He was a SECRET DISCIPLE of Jesus
    - 2. He was “a RICH man” (Matt. 27:57; cf. Isa. 53:9)
    - 3. He was a “PROMINENT member” of the Sanhedrin (Mark 15:43; cf. John 12:42)
    - 4. He was “a GOOD and RIGHTEOUS man” (Luke 23:50)
    - 5. He was “WAITING for the KINGDOM of God” (Mark 15:43)
    - 6. He took Jesus' body for BURIAL
- II. His Body Was TREATED Like a KING (John 19:39-41)
  - A. Nicodemus came to ASSIST Joseph in the burial
    - 1. He had FIRST come to Jesus “by NIGHT” (cf. 3:1-15)
    - 2. He brought about 75 POUNDS of spices for the body

- B. Together, they BOUND the body in strips of LINEN with the spices
- C. They placed his body in a NEW TOMB (cf. Matt. 27:60)
  - 1. It was a tomb Joseph had prepared for HIMSELF
  - 2. It was in a GARDEN
  - 3. This GARDEN was “IN the place where He was crucified”
- D. Clearly, they did NOT EXPECT Jesus to RISE from the DEAD

III. His Body Was BURIED in Accordance with the LAW (John 19:42)

- A. It was the Jewish "day of PREPARATION"
- B. The tomb was CONVENIENT
- C. Jesus' body was BURIED/ENTOMBED before nightfall