

# Deepen Your Understanding of the Easter Story.

# JESUS' HOURS ON THE CROSS

**JESUS' HOURS ON THE CROSS**

**8** —  
23:23–24

**9 AM** 3rd hour  
CRUCIFIXION  
Luke 23:33  
by Luke 23:26

**10** — 4th  
The soldiers divided up his clothes  
"cast lots to see what each would  
Mark 15:24  
said, "Father, forgive them, for  
to not know what they are doing."  
23:34  
the third hour when they crucified  
Mark 15:25

**11** — 5th  
ROMAN (and Modern) EXPRESSION  
JEWISH EXPRESSION OF THE  
5th 6th hour

**12** — 6th hour

One of the criminals who hung there  
hurled insults at Jesus: "Aren't you  
the Christ? Save yourself and us!"  
Luke 23:39

The soldiers also came up and mocked  
him: "If you are the king of the Jews,  
save yourself." Luke 23:36–37

The chief priests mockingly said,  
"He saved others ... but he can't  
save himself!" Mark 15:31

Those who passed by hurled insults  
at him ... saying ... "Come down from  
the cross, if you are the Son of God!"  
Matt. 27:39–40

But the other criminal rebuked him ...  
Then he said, "Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom."  
Luke 23:40–42

Jesus answered him, "I tell  
you the truth, today you shall  
be with me in paradise."  
Luke 23:40–42

Jesus ... said to his  
mother, "Dear woman,  
here is your son," and  
to the disciple, "Here  
is your mother."  
John 19:26–27

At the ...  
until the ...  
Mark

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The soldiers divided up his clothes and cast lots to see what each would get. **Mark 15:24**

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." **Luke 23:34**

It was the third hour when they crucified him. **Mark 15:25**

**THE CRUCIFIXION**  
Crucified **Luke 23:33**

Led to Calvary **Luke 23:26**

Sentenced **Luke 23:23-24**

Returned to Pilate **Luke 23:11**

Sent to Herod **Luke 23:6-10**

Jesus before Pilate **Mark 15:1**

## EVENTS PRECEDING

- The Last Supper **Luke 22:14**
- Gethsemane **Matt. 26:36**
- The arrest **John 18:12**
- At the house of Caiaphas **Luke 22:54**

**START  
HERE**

But the other criminal rebuked him ... Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." **Luke 23:40-42**

Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you shall be with me in paradise." **Luke 23:40-42**

Jesus ... said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." **John 19:26-27**

At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. **Mark 15:33**

Jesus cried ... "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" **Matt. 27:46**

"I am thirsty." **John 19:28**

"It is finished." **John 19:30**

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." **Luke 23:46**

**JESUS DIES**

## EVENTS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

- The earthquake and tearing in two of the curtain (veil) **Matt. 27:51**
- Tombs break open **Matt. 27:51**
- The centurion ... exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God." **Matt. 27:54**
- The confession of the multitude **Luke 23:48**
- The thieves' legs are broken **John 19:31-32**
- The soldier pierces Jesus' side **John 19:34**
- The burial **John 19:38-42**  
The tomb is secured by a seal and a guard is posted **Matt. 27:66**

Thin lines indicate sequence of events only. Exact times are not recorded in Scripture.

Only Mark's Gospel states actual times: "3rd hour," "6th hour," "9th hour".

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES

### Pontius Pilate Inscription

In 1961, archaeologists working at the ruins of Caesarea Maritima in Israel found a stone slab bearing the name of Pontius Pilate who was involved in the trial of Jesus. The stone commemorates Pilate's dedication of a temple to Emperor Tiberius. This is the oldest appearance of Pilate's name to be found, and it dates to the time of Jesus. Luke 3:1



### Caiaphas's Family Tomb

In 1990, builders accidentally uncovered a first-century AD burial cave south of Jerusalem. Later, archaeologists investigated and found several stone boxes (called ossuaries) that contained human bones. Inside the stone boxes were the bones of two infants, a child, a teenager, a woman, and a man. One box had the name "Caiaphas" on it. The man's bones may be those of Caiaphas, the priest who brought Jesus to trial. Matt. 26:57; John 18:13-14



### Crucifixion Evidence

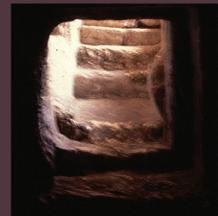
In 1968, the bones of a young man who had been crucified during New Testament times were found in the Jerusalem area. A seven-inch nail was still embedded in the heel bone. This find shows gruesome evidence of how the Romans crucified people. Luke 23:33



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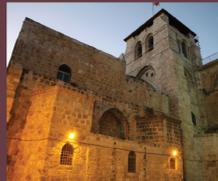
### Rolling Stone Tombs

At several places in modern Israel there are examples of the type of tomb in which Jesus' body was placed. Mostly cut into the sides of hills, each used a large circular stone to cover the entrance. Inside the tomb is a central room, called an antechamber, and as many as six to eight burial shafts. After the bodies decayed, the bones would be removed from each shaft and placed in a covered stone box (called an ossuary) in the central room. The photo shown here was taken from inside the tomb, looking out past the rolling stone and up the steps. Matt. 27:60; 28:2; Mark 15:46; 16:3-4; Luke 24:2



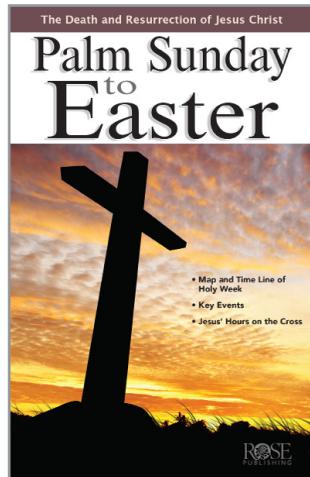
### Jesus' Tomb

Most archaeologists believe that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (right), originally built about AD 340, stands over the site of the tomb. Archaeology in and around the church has revealed a rock quarry from the end of the Old Testament era. Tombs had been cut into the quarry wall during the first century AD. Another proposed site for Jesus' tomb is the Garden Tomb, or "Gordon's Calvary." Archaeology in the Garden Tomb area has turned up tombs of the type used during Old Testament times, with some having been reused between AD 400-600. Matt. 27:57-60; Mark 15:45-46; Luke 23:50-53; John 19:38-42



## PROPHECIES OF JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Prophecy	Old Testament	New Testament
<b>Be mocked and insulted by many</b>	"All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads."—Ps. 22:7 (Also Ps. 22:8, 17)	"Those who passed by hurled insults at [Jesus] .... The chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him."—Mark 15:29-32 (Also Matt. 27:31, 39-43; Luke 23:35-39)
<b>Be beaten and spat upon</b>	"I offered my back to those who beat me.... I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting."—Isa. 50:6	"Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists."—Matt. 26:67 (Also Matt. 27:26-30; Mark 14:65; 15:15-19; Luke 22:63-65; John 19:1)
<b>Be struck on the head</b>	"They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod."—Micah 5:1b	"They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again."—Matt. 27:30
<b>Be hung upon a pole as a curse for us</b>	"...anyone who is hung on a pole is under God's curse."—Deut. 21:23	"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: 'Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.'"—Gal. 3:13
<b>Be numbered (crucified) with transgressors</b>	"...he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors."—Isa. 53:12	[Jesus said,] "It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me."—Luke 22:37 (Matt. 27:38; Mark 15:27-28; 23:32-33)
<b>Be lifted up, just as Moses lifted up a snake</b>	"So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived."—Num. 21:9	"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."—John 3:14-15
<b>Be thirsty during execution</b>	"My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death."—Ps. 22:15	"Knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.'"—John 19:28
<b>Be pierced when crucified</b>	"...they pierce my hands and my feet."—Ps. 22:16 "They will look on me, the one they have pierced..."—Zech. 12:10	[Thomas said,] "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." —John 20:25 "[Jesus] said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'" —John 20:27 (Also Matt. 27:35; John 19:34-37)



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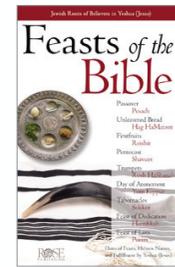
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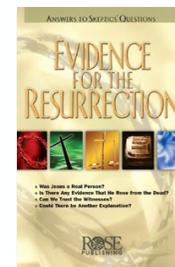
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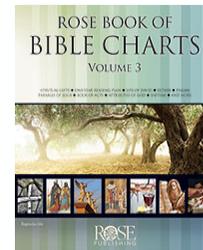
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