



SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE, WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED, AND WAS BURIED; HE DESCENDED TO THE DEAD.

VERSES

JOHN 3

GENESIS 15

ISAIAH 52:13

PSALM 22

JOHN 6:53-58

1 PETER 2:21-25

1 PETER 3:18

HEBREWS 9:22

LEVITICUS 17:10-12

Before You Listen

- 1 Think about what you think happened at the crucifixion and resurrection
- 2 Easter doesn't make a lot of sense without Good Friday.
- 3 A controversial subject: both atonement theories are there - substitutionary and Christus Victor

While You Listen

- 1 Representation is key. It starts in the OT (Adam, Noah, David substituted on our behalf)
- 2 The motive behind this clause is the LOVE OF GOD, not an angry despotic dictator.
- 3 Trees are very important.
- 4 Life is in the blood. (Lev 17) Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. When Jesus told the disciples on the night he was betrayed to eat His flesh and drink His blood, it was something abhorrent to them. According to Jewish thought you become what you eat and drink!
- 5 Pilate is an important character in the story as he is a history marker in one sense and another representative of us in another. Pilate grounds the story in real human history.
- 6 Descended to the dead: many ways to look at it.
- 7 Remember that God's final word is not death. Death is an abomination. The final word is Gospel and Forgiveness.



After You Listen

- 1 The crucifixion was a very public death. It was out in the open for all to be horrified by it.
- 2 Think of the trees and that wood was used everywhere in scripture (OT: ark, temple, candlesticks) in the NT it says six times that Jesus was crucified on the tree.
- 3 He was lifted up (John 3) He bore the curse upon a tree
- 4 Read Gen 2 and 3 - trees!

WHAT DID YOU LEARN

In pondering communion when we take His body and blood into our mouths, you have actually partaken of the atonement for your soul. His Divine life is now in you through the blood of Christ, in direct opposition to Lev 17. He turns the tables. It is like spiritual eroticism: The Bridegroom enters his Bride (church - you) in a life making act.

WHY IS THIS GOOD NEWS?

1. If you ever have doubts about where you stand with God, Holy Communion is where to look.
2. He sympathizes with us in every way. We have a Shepherd/Pastor who totally understands our plights, difficulties and challenges. And He understands the joy and celebration of what it means to be human.
3. We don't have an unapproachable statuary Jesus, high in the sky. We have one who bore the same flesh and blood we have. He suffered both the loss of friends and betrayal.
4. Finally, Key words: suffered, crucified, died and was buried for you - in real human history under real human conditions - FOR YOU!