

# **SERIES:** CHRIST'S SACRIFICE: OUR HOPE

**DATE:** Saturday - Sunday, March 25-26, 2023

**SERMON:** Why Do We Worship?

**SCRIPTURE:** John 19:1-24 NIV

## **John 19:1-24 (NIV)**

[1] Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

[2] The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe

[3] and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they slapped him in the face.

[4] Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews gathered there, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him."

[5] When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

[6] As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him."

[7] The Jewish leaders insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."

[8] When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid,

[9] and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer.

[10] "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?"

[11] Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

[12] From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jewish leaders kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar."

[13] When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha).

[14] It was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about noon. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.

[15] But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

[16] Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.

[17] Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).

[18] There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

[19] Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

[20] Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek.

[21] The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

[22] Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

[23] When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

[24] "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.

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*“Even atheists worship. Skeptics worship. Republicans and Democrats worship. Independents worship. Everyone, everywhere, worships. It’s the fundamental drive of life and one of the unique distinctions of humanity.” – Greg Laurie*

**Ecclesiastes 3:11** *God has placed eternity in the human heart.*

## **Why do we worship, and why do we have hope?**

1. **Because God** \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.7-11)

- “It’s not that we \_\_\_\_\_ believe; it’s that we \_\_\_\_\_ believe.”

2. **Because Christ** \_\_\_\_\_ **for us** (vv.1-6)

- **Isaiah 53:4-5** *Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

3. **Because He** \_\_\_\_\_ **over Himself** (vv.10, 17-18)

- **Isaiah 53:7** *He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.*

4. **Because He** \_\_\_\_\_ **– the righteous for the unrighteous.** (vv.12-16)

- **Isaiah 53:6** *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

5. **Because He is our** \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.19-22)

- **Isaiah 53:12** *Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors.*

# Lagniappe

*As we draw closer to Easter, I want to remind you of the amazing opportunity we have to share our hope with our family and friends.*

We need to remember that the Christian faith is judged by the resurrection of Jesus.

The apostle Paul made clear that if Christ has not been raised from the dead that our faith is in vain. Therefore, we have a powerful message to proclaim to the world.

Let us make this Easter a time that we do all that we can to help our family and friends know Christ and the power of His resurrection - *Philippians 3:10*.

I am sensing a new openness to the gospel of Christ and for the hope that is in Him. Jesus reminded us to work while it is day, a metaphor describing the urgency of the hour. Let us make this a time of inviting family and friends to join with us as we worship. We have often seen that people will attend if we ask.

Even with the large number we have at Easter, our new building gives us plenty of room. If you have any question about that, then join with us on Saturday evening at 6 PM. All three services will be the same both in the message and in the music.

*Please pray that God would make this Easter a great time for the people you love.*



**UPCOMING EVENT that you need to know about:** Next Saturday – **April 1** – we are hosting a “Special Needs Family Fest & Expo” for the community. If you know a family that has special needs – please invite them to attend. There will be vendors, food, and games for children. This is for ALL ages and a great place to introduce the community to FBC Covington

# Waylon