



DIGGING DEEPER

The Cross and the Grave

PLEASE READ – Matthew 27:27-66

It will be helpful in further personal or group study to examine other accounts in the other gospels to contrast and compare!

THE SETTING

We continue the story having finished last week with Pilate sending Jesus to be flogged and then led away to be crucified. This scene mainly occurs at Golgotha. Examine where this was and other significant details. (ie outside the city etc.)

THE STORY – some thoughts for discussion.

What title did the Jews accuse Jesus of using? (Matt 26: 63.....)

What title did the Romans soldiers use to mock Him in this passage?

The final account of their full hatred and mockery is recorded in Matthew 27: 41 onwards.

Why is the irony of this intensely moving?

Note also as his own people rejected his Sonship what did the Gentile guards acknowledge after they witnessed first hand what had happened? (V40)

Why did the disciples struggle to understand the following passages do you think?

Mark 8:31; Mark 9:31; Mark 10:34

Other areas for discussion:

The darkness: The torn curtain: The repentant thief;

The new tomb; Your own reflections!

What happened on the cross when Jesus died?

When Jesus died on the cross, he offered himself up as a sacrifice, bearing the punishment due to sinners, fulfilling the plan of God whereby men may be reconciled to God.

Feeling brave?

Matthew 27:52-53.....