

### **OLD COVENANT CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST**

In our lesson text, Paul mentions the Cross of Jesus Christ twice: Gal.6:12 and 14.

- In **Gal.6:12**, Paul mentions the Church Age Believer (CAB) being persecuted for the message of the cross of Christ.
  - (Phil.1:29) “For to you it has been granted **for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.**”
- In **Gal.6:14**, Paul mentions the world has been crucified to Church Age Believer (CAB), and the Church Age Believer (CAB) to the world.
  - (Phil.3:9) “And may be found in Him, **not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.**”

#### **1. Crucifixion declared in the Old Covenant (OC) offered a two-sided picture of the death of Christ in: crucifixion and removal of body the same day.**

This form of capital offense was practiced in Egypt during the time of Joseph (Gen.40:19). This was mentioned in Joseph’s dream about Pharaoh’s baker while in prison (Gen.40:16-22).

This form of capital offense was also practiced by Persians during the time of Esther (Esther 2:23). Mordecai exposed a plot against King Xerxes by two officials that were crucified (Esther 2:19-23).

In fact the Greeks and Romans copied the Persian model of crucifixion for capital offenses. It was used as a deterrent to capital offenses.

#### **2. The Jewish form of crucifixion had specific regulations under Mosaic Law because of shadow Christology (Heb.10:1).**

Under Mosaic Law, a Jew guilty of a capital offense was first stoned to death and then his body was hung on a tree (crucifixion). He was declared **accursed of God** (qelalah) [contemptible]. The body had to be removed and buried on the same day to not defile the grace inheritance of the Promised Land (Deut.21:21-23).

To be sure this order was followed, God had His Son die on Passover (John 19:31-37).

In the Sanhedrin court, Jesus declared “worthy of capital offense death” (Matt.26:66; Lev.24:16) (Paul under Roman Law) (Acts 23:26-30).

In Roman court, Jesus was declared innocent of a capital offense but Jewish leaders shouted “crucify Him” and “Let His blood be on us and on our children.” (Matt.27:22-26; Acts 5:28)

There were two guilty of insurrection and ONE was innocent and Barabbas was set free (Matt.27:19, 38; John 18:39-40; Luke 23:32-33)

### 3. God put **ALL the curses of OC Law** upon Christ on the cross (Gal.3:10-14).

The OC curse of crucifixion pointed to the blessing that would come with salvation in Christ (Gal.3:24).

(Gal.3:13-14) “Christ redeemed us from **the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us** - for it is **written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”** - in order that in **Christ Jesus the blessings** of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles, so that **by faith we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**” (Deut.21:23) (John 7:37-39; Gal.3:2-3)

Paul declared that “**No one** is justified by the Law **before God** is evident; for, “**The righteous man shall live by faith.**” (Gal.3:11; Hab.2:4; Gal.2:16)

(Col.2:13-14) “And when you were **dead in your transgressions** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, **having forgiven us all our transgressions, having cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us** and He has taken it out of the way, having **hailed it to the cross.**”

### 4. On the day of Jewish Passover, Rome executed three by crucifixion at a place called The Skull (Greek), Golgotha (Aramaic), or Calvary (Latin) (John 19:17-22).

This information is important because the placard declaring the crime placed on the cross was written in these three languages (**JESUS OF NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS**). This was His crime according to Pilate investigation.

(Acts 2:22-23) “**This man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross** by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. And God raised Him up again, **putting an end to the agony of death,** since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.” (Acts 3:17-19)

Luke recorded that there was a conversation between these three during the crucifixion (**Luke 23:39-44**).

**One criminal** hurled this insult, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” (Matt.4:1-11)

**The other criminal** rebuked him and made a request to Jesus, “Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!”

**Jesus addressed the last criminal,** “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.”

What the people saw at Golgotha was the worst of society but what God saw was the worth of the soul.

Many criminals as well as prison personnel have experienced grace salvation through faith by the same invitation from the Cross of Jesus Christ (Matt.27:54; Acts 16:31; Philemon; Phil.1:7, 12-14; 4:22).