

The Death of Jesus

Mark 15:33-41

October 5, 2014

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

- Sixth hour
 - 12:00 noon
 - Or rather when sun at highest point
- Darkness came over whole land
 - Until 9th hour (about 3:00 pm)
 - What is this darkness?
 - I believe this to be total darkness—the extent is unknown because Mark says whole land—whole of Israel? All of Jerusalem? Where?
 - Eclipse?
 - Passover is during the Full moon—cannot have eclipse during this time
 - Satanic Darkness?
 - Satan does not have the power to cause physical darkness
 - Absence of God?
 - Since God is light does this mean that God is out of the picture?
 - No
 - Presence of God
 - Bible says that God comes as light but He also comes as darkness
 - Darkness is equated to His judgment
 - Darkness is His presence in judgment
- Day of the Lord

Joel 1:15 *Alas for that day! For the day of the LORD is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty.*

Joel 2:10-11 *Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. 11 The LORD thunders at the head of His army; His forces are beyond number, and mighty are those who obey His command. The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?*

Joel 2:31 *The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD .*

Amos 5:20 *Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?*

Amos 8:9 *"In that day," declares the Sovereign LORD, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight."*

Zephaniah 1:14-15 *The great day of the LORD is near—near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness,*

- In what Day does the Lord do this?

- In the day of divine judgment
- Most of the prophecies are about Jesus' Second Coming
- Darkness = divine fury
- Jesus talks about hell = outer darkness
- Hell is extension of God's wrath
- Jesus experiencing the totality of God's wrath
 - Jesus is experiencing hell on the cross
 - God's infinite wrath on all the sinners poured out on the infinite Son of God—a mystery
 - Jesus drank the cup of God's wrath for 3 hours

34 *And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

- At the ninth hour
 - Darkness ends
 - God's wrath has been fully poured out
- Jesus cried out in a loud voice
 - He is still strong on the cross
- My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?
 - This is after God pours out His wrath
 - What is happening here?
 - Fulfillment of **Ps 22:1**
 - When Jesus cries out, He is expecting God's comfort
 - Jesus is literally feeling the hell on the cross—He experiences none of God's comfort, compassion, mercy at that moment
 - There is no fellowship for first time in eternity

35 *When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, He's calling Elijah." 36 One man ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave Him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take Him down," he said.*

- Continued mockery—darkness does not deter them
- Elijah
 - Elijah is forerunner of Messiah
 - They missed the fact that John the Baptist is the Elijah foretold
 - Total mockery
- Drink
 - Jesus says "I thirst"

John 19:28 *Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."*

Psalms 69:21 *They put gall in My food and gave Me vinegar for My thirst.*

37 *With a loud cry, Jesus breathed His last.*

- Shout of victory
- Last words of Jesus

John 19:30 *When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.*

Luke 23:46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He had said this, He breathed His last.

- He finished strong! He willed Himself to die!

John 10:18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from My Father.

38 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

- Temple curtain torn
 - Between people and the Most Holy Place
 - Only one person could go in (High Priest once a year)
 - Old Covenant is finished
 - Priesthood is nullified
 - God has made access to Himself through Jesus Christ for all believers
- Earthquake

Matthew 27:51 At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split.

- Earthquake in Scripture associated with darkness and judgment of God

Exodus 19:18 Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, the whole mountain trembled violently,

- Dead rising from grave

Matthew 27:52-53 The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. **53** They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

39 And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard His cry and saw how He died, he said, "Surely this Man was the Son of God!"

- Centurion believed
 - He was part of the mockery and shame from the Roman soldiers
- He hears Jesus' words and sees the glory of His death and believes

Luke 23:47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous Man."

40 Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. **41** In Galilee these women had followed Him and cared for His needs. Many other women who had come up with Him to Jerusalem were also there.

- Distance
 - They were watching with detachment—scared and confused

- Women
 - Not the Apostles!
 - Who are these women?

John 19:25 *Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.*

Matthew 27:56 *Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's sons*

Note: Mary, mother of Jesus is there. Mary Magdalene is also there. Salome—mother of James and John Zebedee and Mary's sister. Mary mother of James the younger (disciple of Jesus) and Joses—wife of Clopas.

- Ministered to Jesus
 - They ministered to Jesus just like the angels ministered to Him after the Temptation

Mark 1:13 *and He was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended Him.*

- They followed Him since Galilee
- They are true disciples—even though they are not called to preach or be apostles, they stayed with Him throughout His death and witnessed His burial

Conclusion

This is the high point of the gospel of Mark. He pens the gospel so that the centurion would be the first human to notice that Jesus is the Son of God, and it takes place at the cross.

Mark 1:1 *The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

Of course, the Father declared Jesus to be the Son of God.

Mark 1:11 *And a voice came from heaven: "You are My Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased."*

Mark 9:7 *Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is My Son, whom I love. Listen to Him!"*

Even the demons cried out that He was the Son of God.

Mark 5:7 He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do You want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that You won't torture me!"

What was Mark aiming for? So that we believe that Jesus is the Son of God. His purpose is the same as John.

John 20:31 *But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.*

It ends with the centurion having eternal life because he believed.