

The Crucifixion of Christ

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 49

Scripture text – Mark 15:21-32

Introduction

- We've arrived at the summit; however, the next 3 messages will be _____.
- Today, we'll focus on _____ of the _____ elements included in this passage.

Element #1: The Journey

- What is noteworthy about the journey to Golgotha is that Jesus was unable to _____ the cross.
- It was a journey of about _____ a mile. Condemned criminals normally were expected to carry the *patibulum* (horizontal part of the cross), which normally weighed _____ pounds.
- Jesus could not carry the *patibulum* due to the severity of his _____. From a medical standpoint, he was already in the early stages of _____.
- In addition, the _____ of _____ produced a condition known as *trigeminal neuralgia*, one of the worst pains a human being can experience.

Element #2: The Offer of Wine

- The offer likely came from _____ in the crowd. The mixture served as a narcotic to _____ the pain. The custom is based on Proverbs 31:6.
- Incredibly, Jesus _____ the offer.
- The likely explanation is that, in Gethsemane, Jesus resolved to drink the cup of _____ that God gave him, not any cup of _____ offered by man.

Element #3: Nailing to the Cross

- "Crucifixion" comes from the Latin word *cruciare*, which means to _____ or _____.

- The English word *excruciating* is derived from crucifixion and literally means “_____ the _____.”
- Cicero called crucifixion “*the most _____ and atrocious of deaths.*” It was eventually outlawed by Constantine the Great in the early 300’s AD.
- The nails would have injured the *median nerve*, producing pain described as _____.
- Recent scientific evidence:
 1. The conventional wisdom is that Jesus died from _____.
This is probably false.
 2. There’s no way Jesus would have had the strength to lift his body anywhere from _____ to _____ times.

Element #4: The Mockers

- 2 of the 3 groups taunted Jesus to _____ from the cross.
- This brings to mind Satan’s _____ of Christ at the beginning of his ministry.
- Humanity likes to think of itself as basically _____. And yet, the scene at the cross is the more _____ portrayal of humankind.
- This is why we need a Savior. That God provided one is remarkable.