

# THE CROSS OF JESUS

We know that Jesus is betrayed by Judas and abandoned by the disciples. Arrested, bound and taken before the high priest.

*Matthew 26:59-68*

*Matthew 27:11-14*

*Matthew 27:26 (nkjv) Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.*

We cannot fully comprehend the pain and suffering Jesus endured on our behalf.

**An early church historian who witnessed a Roman scourging stated...**

*“All those around were so horrified to see them so torn with the scourges that their very veins were laid bare along with their inner muscles and sinews. And even their very bowels were exposed.”*

**Jesus endured a Roman scourging.**

*Matthew 27:27-35*

They drove spikes through His wrists and the top of His feet.

The cross was lifted into position and His full weight pressed down on the spikes in His ankles - excruciating pain.

*Matthew 27:39-44* - Jesus is mocked and

The prophet Isaiah prophesied a vivid picture of what Jesus looked like at this point.

*Isaiah 52:14 (cev)* Many were horrified at what happened to him. But everyone who saw him was even more horrified because he suffered until he no longer looked human.

*Isaiah 53:5 (erv)* But he was being punished for what we did. He was crushed because of our guilt. He took the punishment we deserved, and this brought us peace. We were healed because of his pain.

**Jesus had seemingly lost all resemblance to a man.**

Jesus was indeed "*the man of sorrows!*"  
Jesus was born into a death sentence.

The nearest we can come to understanding Christ's ordeal is to listen to the cries He made from the cross.

His awful cries provide insight into His sufferings and two cries stand out.

The cries *"I thirst"* and *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

**He cried: *"I thirst"***

This cry was the only indication Jesus gave of physical pain. This was no ordinary thirst.

His pain was physical; but even more, it was spiritual.

## **PHYSICAL PAIN**

His enemies fell upon Him in hate-filled violence and injured Him where *"His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man..."*

*Isaiah 52:14*

The most awful part of His suffering was His;

## **SPIRITUAL PAIN**

**He had a dreadful thirst for lost righteousness.**

Because of the crushing weight of humanities sin, sicknesses and sorrows that descended upon Him.

*2 Corinthians 5:21 (niv) For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.*

Jesus stripped Himself of His Divinity, took upon Himself human flesh, humbled Himself further and was crucified because of human corruption. (*Philippines 2:6-8*)

Jesus fulfilled His Fathers mission for Him to free us from the bondage of sin, sickness and the evil one and reconciled us back into favour with our Creator.

*Isaiah 53:4-6 (niv)*

*Isaiah 53:10a It was the Lord's good plan to crush Him and cause Him grief. Yet when His life is made an offering for sin, He will enjoy many descendants...*

We cannot measure the pain and emptiness Jesus accepted at Calvary.

Nor can we measure the pardon, healing, provision, and God's grace found in Jesus.