

"CRUCIFIXION, WHAT IS IT?"

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What is crucifixion? One medical doctor Dr. Jameso Fuzzell goes into great detail explaining this topic in a video. It is entitled "Medical Aspects Of the Crucifixion" (Good News Productions * POB 222 * Joplin, MO 64802 * 800/457-4674).

The cross is placed on the ground and the exhausted man is quickly thrown backwards with his shoulders against the wood. The legionnaire feels for the depression at the front of the wrist. He drives a heavy, square wrought-iron nail through the wrist deep into the wood. Quickly he moves to the other side and repeats the action, being careful not to pull the arms too tightly, but to allow some flex and movement.

The cross is then lifted into place. The left foot is pressed backward against the right foot, and with both feet extended, toes down, a nail is driven through the arch of each, leaving the knees flexed. The victim is now crucified.

As he slowly sags down with more weight on the nails in the wrists, excruciating fiery pain shoots along the fingers and up the arms to explode in the brain - the nails in the wrists are putting pressure on the median nerves. As he pushes himself upward to avoid this stretching torment, he places the full weight on the nail through his feet. Again he feels the searing agony of the nail tearing through the nerves between the bones of his feet.

As the arms fatigue, cramps sweep through his muscles, knotting them deep with relentless, and throbbing pain. With these cramps comes the inability to push himself upward to breathe. Air can be drawn into the lungs but not exhaled. He fights to raise himself in order to get even one small breath. Finally, carbon dioxide builds up in the lungs and in the blood stream, and the cramps partially subside. Spasmodically, he is able to push himself upward to exhale and bring in life-giving oxygen.

Hours of limitless pain, cycles of twisting, joint-renting cramps, intermittent partial asphyxiation, and searing pain. His tissue is torn from his lacerated back as he moves up and down against rough

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timber. Then another agony begins: a deep, crushing pain deep in the chest as the pericardium slowly fills with serum and begins to compress the heart. It is now almost over.

The loss of tissue fluids has reached a critical level. The compressed heart is struggling to pump heavy, thick, sluggish blood into the tissues. The tortured lungs are making frantic effort to gasp in small gulps of air. He can feel the chill of death creeping through his tissues. Finally, he allows his body to die. All this the Bible records with the simple words, "...and they Crucified Him.." (Mark 15:24).

What wondrous love is this? Everyone should know the pain and suffering which our Lord Jesus Christ went through for mankind. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.... (Isaiah 12:2).

If one can be taught concerning the love which God, the Creator of all of life, has for His creation - it should touch one's heart. John 15:12-13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. NIV

Normally, the reason that mankind rejects Jesus as the Savior and refuses to make Him the Lord of one's life is because of the lack of teaching as to who Jesus truly is. John 1:1-14 teaches that He is God in the flesh. He came to earth to teach mankind concerning life. If we as humans will listen to Him we will have fewer problems, our marriages will be stronger and sweeter, our day to day journey through life will be much easier and we will look forward to physical death. The Christian knows that at death one will be able to go to be with Jesus in a sinless environment, which is desired by all.

God is in need of many more "Christians" in our world. Will we answer the call to be a "Christian"? If we had more "Christians" the world would be a better place to live and there would be more people to help share the Word about Jesus. Now, the **Bible's plan of salvation is very plain** and teaches that one **must**:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (Acts 16:31)
- 2) Repent Of Sins (Acts 17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (Acts 8:37)
- 4) Be Baptized In Water (Acts 2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (Acts 14:22)