



BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

9278 FM127, Pittsburg, TX 75686

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Time of Services:

Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class, 11:00 A.M. worship, and 6:00 P.M. worship

Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class

Preacher:

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253 email: lblk@peoplescom.net

Youth Leaders:

Heath & Carla Hines 903-717-1423 email: hhines@hotmail.com

Benevolence - Rick Toland: 903-220-9825

Evangelism - Heath Hines: 903-717-1423

Edification - H. L. Robertson: 903-856-5461

Building Maintenance - Mark Sharpin: 903-573-3993

Grounds & Van - John D. Porter: 903-563-5945

Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Larry Black



BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

PUTTING YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH

BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

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Suffering of Jesus

At the age of 33, Jesus was condemned to death. At the time, crucifixion was the "worst" possible method of death. Only the worst criminals were condemned to be crucified. Yet it was even more painful for Jesus for unlike other criminals condemned to death by crucifixion, Jesus was nailed to the cross rather than being tied. Scholars think that each nail was 6 to 8 inches long and driven into His wrists not into His palms as is commonly portrayed.

There is a tendon in the wrist that extends to the shoulder. The Roman guards knew when the nails were being hammered into the wrist that the tendon would tear and break forcing Jesus to use His back muscles to support himself in order to breathe.

Both of His feet were nailed together. Thus He was forced to support Himself on the single nail that impaled His feet to the cross. Jesus could not support himself with His legs for long because of the pain, so He was forced to alternate between arching His back and using his legs just to continue to breathe. Imagine the struggle, the pain, the suffering, and the courage. Jesus endured this reality for over 3 hours.

I've read that a few minutes before He died, Jesus stopped bleeding. He was simply pouring water from his wounds. From common images, we see wounds to His hands and feet and even the spear wound to His side, but do we remember the many wounds made to his body? A hammer driving large nails through the wrists, the feet overlapped and a nail hammered through the arches, then a Roman guard piercing His side with a spear. Before the nails and the spear, Jesus was whipped and beaten. The whipping was so severe that it tore the flesh from His body. The crown of thorns (likely two to three-inch thorns) cut deeply into His scalp. Most men would not have survived this torture.

Some claim that He had no more blood to bleed out so only water poured from His wounds. He had three nails hammered into His body; a crown of thorns on His head; and,

beyond that, a wound where a Roman soldier stabbed a spear into His side. (*John 19:34*) *But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.*

In addition to the pain, He suffered the humiliation of carrying His own cross for almost a mile while the crowd spat in his face and threw stones (the cross beam was almost 60 lbs. of weight). Jesus had to endure this experience in order for you to have free access to God so that your sins could be "washed" away.

Have you taken advantage of what Jesus did for you by obeying the gospel message that He presents? That entails believing that Jesus is the Son of God, repenting of the sin in your life, verbally confessing your faith, and being immersed in baptism for the remission of your sins. If you have not done all those things, reflect on what Jesus did for you and answer the question, "Why not?"

The Prophecies of the Bible

The prophecies of the Bible are amazing. Eight hundred years before Jesus' birth, the prophet Micah said He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). And then Caesar sent out a decree, as recorded in Luke 2:1, that the entire world should be registered. So Mary left Nazareth, went to Bethlehem and gave birth to Jesus there because her husband Joseph, a descendant of David, had to return to his birthplace for the census. Pretty amazing!

You can turn to Psalm 22, which was written hundreds of years before the crucifixion of Christ, and find thirty detailed descriptions of death by crucifixion. This was written before crucifixion was ever even known as a form of execution in Palestine. The Jews did not crucify; they stoned. Yet in Psalm 22 you read these words, "They pierced my hands and my feet" (22:16). It was prophesied that the soldiers would cast lots for His garment, hundreds of years before the actual event (Psalm 22:18). The Bible even prophesied in Zechariah 12:10, "*And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced:*" Amazing isn't it? The Old Testament is written as though a man were standing at the foot of the cross! *-Howell Ferguson, Bells, Tennessee*

Family News

- **Darlene Caldwell** is scheduled for surgery tomorrow.
- **Rhonda Guthrie** fell and broke her hip. She had surgery and will be in rehab for three weeks.
- **H.L. Robertson** is sick with the flu and strep throat.
- **Mike and Sharon Fields** have a new great-grandson.
- **Bill Money** will deliver tonight's lesson.
- There will be a men's business meeting following services tonight.
- Next Sunday following the morning service, we have scheduled a covered-dish luncheon.
- Mt. Vernon is having a gospel meeting April 7-10 with Jim Laws preaching.
- Oak Grove is having a Ladies' Day and gospel meeting April 6 and 7 respectively.
- HRR pantry item for April is canned corn and canned fruit.

KEEP THOSE CELLS ACTIVE

(answers next week)

1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. **What was the third child's name?**
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and he wears size thirteen sneakers. **What does he weigh?**
3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, **what was the highest mountain in the world?**
4. How much dirt is there in a hole **that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?**
5. What word in the English Language **is always spelled incorrectly?**
6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. **How is this possible?**
7. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. **Why not?**
8. If you were running a race and you passed the person in 2nd place, **What place would you be in now?**
9. Which is correct to say, **The yolk of the egg are white or The yolk of the egg is white?**
10. If a farmer has five haystacks in one field and four haystacks in the other field, **then how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?**