

## UNDERSTANDING THE "ONE STORY" OF SCRIPTURE

Week 10 – He Felt the Nails!

March 31, 2026

Jesus felt the nails! Jesus literally SUFFERED and DIED!

Oswald Chambers – “Jesus’ death was not something that happened to Him which might have been prevented. His death was the very reason why He came.”

Consider: when we celebrate Jesus’ incarnation – His coming as Emmanuel, God in the flesh (Christmas), we’re celebrating the CROSS – His death! Everything about Jesus’ passion, His suffering, was triumphant! We are saved for all eternity because He suffered and died and rose from the dead!

We can REJOICE with Jesus...in the cross. That seems difficult to comprehend. BUT, because He died – we can live eternally with God forever.

The author of Hebrews told his readership in Heb. 12:2 - to FOCUS ON JESUS...*Who for the JOY that was set before Him – in His sufferings – endured the cross, despising the shame!* Jesus experienced JOY as He was suffering for us!

On Lamb Selection Day before Passover, Jesus told the Jewish people that they did not know the time of their visitation at His first coming Luke 19:41-44 - *Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, <sup>42</sup> saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes... because you did not know the time of your visitation.”* The prophet Daniel wrote of Jesus’ time of death. Daniel speaks of “Messiah the Prince” in Dan. 9:25 - “Messiah the Prince” will be cut off and die before the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. We’ve been given the time of the death of the Messiah in the Hebrew Scriptures!

Why did Jesus have to die? With that question are we implying that there might’ve been another way? We need to acknowledge that God’s ways are not our ways, His thoughts are not our thoughts (Isa. 55:8) Deuteronomy 32:4 - *He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God Who does no wrong, upright and just is He.*

It is this plan that provides for us an eternity with God! And it is this plan of God that cost God everything. JESUS PAID IT ALL!

At His last Passover Seder, Jesus told the redemption story - AND THEN HE FULFILLED it on the cross hours later.

John 18:1 – following the Seder, Jesus and His disciples went out *over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered.* Kidron means *dusky, gloomy*. The Brook Kidron has been called the Black Brook. The blood from the altar area in the Temple where the 256,500 lambs were killed - drained into the Kidron Valley – into the brook! “Black Brook” most likely was named because of its blood-stained riverbed and banks! What were Jesus’ thoughts as He walked across that brook? Was He thinking of the blood that He would shed the next day – the blood shed for us?

Matt. 26:38 – In the garden Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him, <sup>38</sup> *Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”* And, Peter, James, and John fell asleep.

Jesus had left the people in Jerusalem so that He could celebrate the Passover Seder with His disciples in the upper room and explain its fulfillment. There Judas had forsaken

Him. Jesus went with the remaining eleven to the entrance of the Garden and took Peter, James, and John with Him into the inner garden. Then He left the three and prayed alone. Here we may be seeing the movement of Jesus away from the multitude and moving toward the loneliness of the cross...the loneliness of Jesus as He prepared to take upon Himself the sins of the world!

The word *gethsemane* means “a place for pressing oil.” During Jesus' time, heavy stone slabs were lowered onto olives. Gradually, the weight of the slabs squeezed the olive oil out of the pulp, and the oil ran into a pit. The oil was then collected in clay jars. Gethsemane provides a vivid picture of Jesus' suffering. The weight of the sins of the world pressed down upon him like a heavy slab of rock that pressed down on olives.

A “great multitude” (Matt. 26:47; Mark 14:43) with swords and clubs came to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. John 18:3 describes this multitude as a “detachment of troops.” This refers to a cohort of Roman soldiers which equates to 1,000 men at full strength. Can we imagine the chaos? No wonder Judas had to identify Jesus with a kiss. And in the garden Jesus was arrested.

Jesus faced six trials: three religious and three civil. There were many illegalities:

- No trial was to be held during feast time – and yet Jesus was arrested at Passover!
- No trial was to be held at night.
- If the death penalty was levied, a night must pass before the sentence was carried out.
- The Jewish people had no authority to execute anyone – yet there were three religious trials (Annas, Caiaphas, Herod).
- The accused was to be given counsel or representation - Jesus had none.
- The accused was not to be asked self-incriminating questions; however, Jesus was asked if He was the Christ. Jesus was put under oath by the High Priest Caiaphas to answer the statement, “Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” Jesus replied with, “It is as you said” (Matt. 26:63-64).

The death of Jesus was according to the predetermined plan of God:

Isa. 53:10 - ...it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin.

Acts 4:27-28 – For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.

Jesus was then beaten and mocked.

Isa. 52:14 - His visage (appearance) was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men; A purple robe was placed upon His bloodied body. A crown of thorns was pushed down upon Jesus' head. At the fall of man in the garden of Eden, God told Adam, *Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.* <sup>18</sup> Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you... (Gen. 3:17-18). Thorns, an object of the curse, were fashioned into a crown for the One Who would deliver us from that curse!

Jesus was led away to “Golgotha” – “the place of the skull” – to be crucified. Genesis 3:15 is the first prophecy of the Redeemer. The Seed of the woman, the Messiah, would crush Satan's head.

Satan would bruise the Messiah's heel. Jesus feet were nailed to the cross. Jesus being crucified at Golgotha, the place of the skull, was to show His VICTORY over His enemy. Jesus was literally in a position, high and lifted up on the cross...over His enemies, The cross was DROPPED into the hole that had been dug for it – dug into the skull-shaped hill, "Golgotha," that looked like a skull!

Mark 15:25 - Jesus was nailed to the cross at 9 a.m. – the third hour (Jewish time). *Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him - as the unblemished animal Passover lambs were being slain in the temple -on the day of Passover (Nisan 14).*

Crucifixion was Roman capital punishment. Criminals were crucified. Crucifixion was unimaginably painful and inhumane. Victims of crucifixion could live up to six days! BUT Jesus remained on the cross for six hours. He HAD to die at the time He did. Jesus is the fulfillment of Passover; therefore, He had to die on Passover while the unblemished animal Passover lambs were being slain! Ex. 12:6b – *the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it (the lamb) at twilight.* Twilight – “between the two evenings” - the sacrificing of the lamb was to occur before sunset while it was still day 14 of Nisan. He had to die the way He did – crucified – to fulfill prophecy (Psa. 22; Isa. 53; Deut. 21:22-23 – *he who is hanged (on a tree – v. 22) is accursed of God*). And, He had to take upon Himself the curse that we, as sinners, deserve. Rom. 6:23 - *The wages of sin is death.* Jesus died in our place.

Criminals who were crucified had their crimes inscribed on a sign which was attached to the cross. In John 19:19 we read what Pilate wrote on the sign:

JESUS OF NAZARETH, KING OF THE JEWS

Yeshua, Nazar, Melech Yehuda

Jesus/Yeshua – God is salvation

Nazareth – root word: nazar -BRANCH (Messianic title)

King – melech

Jews – Yehudah

Jer. 23:5-6 – *'Behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord, 'That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. <sup>6</sup> In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called:*

*THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.*

Jesus' crucifixion was the height of man's inhumanity to man AND the height of God's love for man!!!!

God used man's tainted/polluted freedom of choice to unfold God's perfect, divine redemptive plan! The cost of the cross remains wholly on God's side!

In the midst of the unimagineable pain from the crucifixion, Jesus cried from the cross, *Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing* (Luke 23:34).

Matt. 27:45 - *Now from the sixth hour (12 noon) until the ninth hour (3 p.m.) there was darkness over all the land.* (Mark 15:33; Luke 23:44-48). Re: a world-wide darkness: what is the scope of the crucifixion? The sins of all men were cast upon the sinless Son of God.

Matt. 27:46 - *And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'* Jesus – 100% God/100% man. Jesus felt the nails!!

*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?* David, in Psa. 22, wrote these words re: the crucifixion of the Messiah – 1,000 years prior to Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus' words were a reminder ("remez" – Jewish teaching tool) of David's prophetic words. Jesus was calling out from the cross to His Jewish brethren, "Here I am – I am the Messiah...the One about Whom King David wrote!"

What about *My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?* Again a reminder of David's Psalm 22. We need to know that there was NO separation between the Father and the Son at the cross. God is ETERNAL! If there was a separation between God the Father and God the Son – can we still say that the Trinity is eternal? There can be no separation within the Trinity.

Psa. 22:24 – David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote of the Messiah at His crucifixion, *He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from Him; but when He cried to Him, He heard.* No separation!

John 19:30 - *It is finished* – "tetelestai" – an accounting term that means "paid in full." Jesus declared the debt owed to His Father by man...because of our sins...the debt we owed was wiped away completely and forever. Believers in Jesus can claim that our debt has been paid in full!

Matt. 27:51 - *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom;* GOD opened the way to the Holy of Holies...declaring that we have direct access to HIM through the blood of Jesus!

The cross is the point where God and sinful man merge with a crash and the way to life is opened...but the crash is on the heart of God.

Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus to you?

The Tomb is Empty. Many don't know what to do with an empty tomb! Many don't care about an empty tomb.

*I am the resurrection and the life...* Jesus told Martha and then asked, *Do you believe this?*  
How are we answering that question?

Why is the resurrection of Jesus significant?

- The resurrection speaks of the immense power of God.
- The resurrection of Jesus validates Who Jesus claimed to be, God the Son, the Messiah, the Redeemer. His resurrection authenticated His ministry (Matt. 16:1-4). The resurrection of Jesus which was witnessed by over 500 people at one time (I Cor. 15:3-8) in addition to others, provides irrefutable proof that He is the Savior of the world!
- The resurrection of Jesus proves His sinless character and divine nature. King David said of Jesus, Psa. 16:10 – *You, God, will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption!*
- The resurrection of Jesus validates the OT prophecies that foretold Jesus' suffering and resurrection.
- Through Jesus Who said, *I am the resurrection and the life* (John 11:25), we who are believers in Jesus share His triumph over death (I John 5:11-12).

The most powerful prophecy that was ever fulfilled is the empty tomb. The most literally explosive miracle, Jesus' bodily resurrection, offers eternal hope to mankind. Have you received that gift of hope?

### I Was in His Mind

I was in His mind before the world was made  
I was in His mind before earth's frame was laid  
Because He knew me...because He loved me

I was in His thoughts the night He prayed for me.  
I was in His thoughts before Gethsemane  
Because He sought me...because He loved me

I was in His heart when Calvary's hill He climbed  
I was in His heart when He died for all mankind  
Because He loved me...because He sought me

I am in His mind, and soon He'll come for me  
I am in His mind...with Him in heaven I'll be  
Because He wants me...because He loves me  
Because He loves me

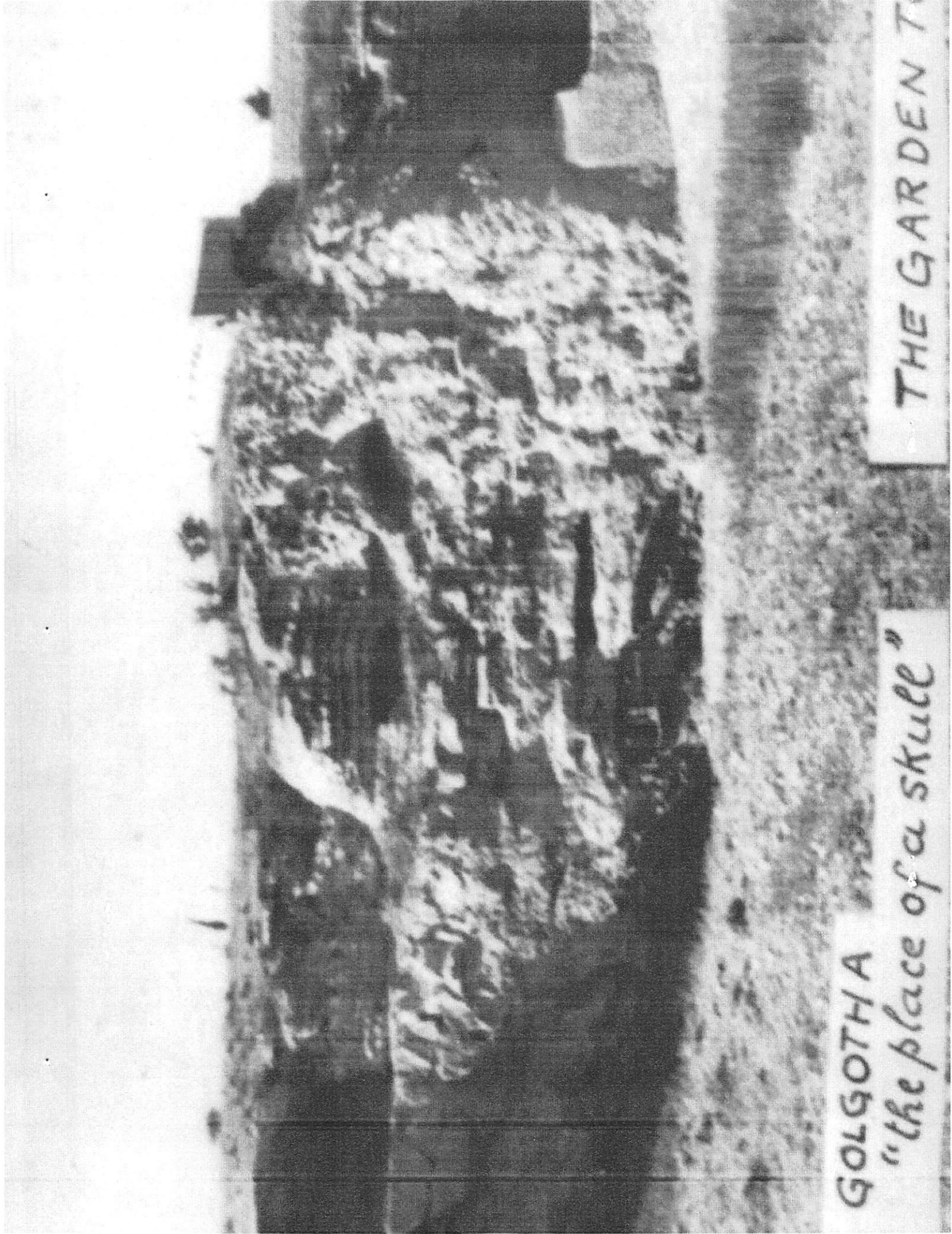
### QUESTIONS

How has God spoken to you through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection?  
How has this changed your life?  
How will this impact your life as you continue your walk with God through Jesus?  
Who is Jesus to you?

### SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Let us exalt and magnify God!! Let us rejoice in His plan of redemption!  
Pray about sharing these truths from God's word to others!  
ENJOY the summer as, perhaps, you continue to meet and fellowship!  
Pray about the Fall Semester as we continue in *Understanding the "One Story" of Scripture*

Resurrection is a truth from the pages of the Hebrew Scriptures:  
Job 14:13-14; Job 19:26; Psa. 16:10; Psa. 22:19-21; Psa. 23; Psa. 24:7-10; Isa. 25:8; Isa. 26:19; Isa. 53:10-11; Eze. 37:1-14; Dan. 12:2; Jonah 2:5; Hosea 5:15-Hosea 6:1-2. And, read Heb. 11:17-19 as it speaks to Abraham's knowledge of resurrection!



GOLGOTHA

"the place of a skull"

THE GARDEN T