



# Vintage Jesus Notes

## Chapter 2 - What Did Jesus Accomplish on the Cross?



# Chapter Summary

In this chapter we'll discuss what Jesus endured on the cross and what was He accomplished on the cross. There is no bigger issue, nothing more central than the cross. As Paul said, "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." If there's anything I want to know, it's Jesus and what he did for us on the cross.

You can visit the Vintage Jesus website to see videos and audio of this series:

<http://reliit.org/vintagejesus/downloads.php>



# Notes

**“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.” 1 Peter 2:24**

## History of crucifixion

1. invented by the Persians in 500B.C and used much by the Romans
  - 1.1. outlawed by Constantine in 337
2. Crucifixion was used for slaves, rebels, pirates and especially despised enemies and criminals. It was a shameful and disgraceful way to die.
3. Roman citizens were usually exempt from such punishment, except in rare major crimes against the state like high treason.
4. The Jews also denounced crucifixion as an acceptable form of death (**Deuteronomy 21:22-23**)
5. ancient Jewish historian Josephus called crucifixion "*the most wretched of deaths*"
6. Roman philosopher Cicero told roman citizens to not even talk to men about the cross because it was such a disgraceful topic not fit for their ears.
7. Adolph Hitler and Pol Pot crucified many, and crucifixion continues today in the Sudan.
8. The term "*excruciating*" was invented to describe the pain from the cross, literally means "*from the cross.*"

## Details of Jesus' crucifixion

1. Some people survived for days on the cross struggling to breath as their weight collapsed their lungs.
2. To ensure maximum suffering scourging proceeded crucifixion. Scourging was so painful and gruesome that many died from it and didn't even make it to the cross.
3. Jesus hands were chained above his head to expose his back and legs to an executioner's whip called "*cat-o-nine tails.*"



- 3.1. cat-o-nine tails was a group of leather straps with heavy balls of metal intended to tenderize the victim. Some straps have metal hooks intended to rip into the flesh, muscles, tendons and even bones of the body and then be ripped off.
- 3.2. Isaiah predicted the results of this scourging of Jesus (**Isaiah 52:14**)
4. A crown of thorns was placed on his head to mock Jesus as "*The King of the Jews.*" (**Matthew 27:29**)
5. Jesus' robe was used as the pot in a gambling dice game. (**Matthew 27:31, John 19:24**)
6. Jesus was forced to carry the wooden crossbar on his beaten body, but he collapsed unable to carry it on his own.
  - 6.1. A man named Simon of Cyrene was appointed to carry the cross the rest of the way. (**Matthew 27:32**)
7. Jesus refused the wine and gall which was a pain killing agent. (**Matthew 27:33-34**)
8. At his crucifixion site Jesus' beard was torn, he was spat upon and mocked.
9. Jesus then had 5-7" nails driven through the most sensitive nerve areas of your body, the hands and feet.
10. Jesus was then lifted onto the cross
  - 10.1. very often at this point the victims would be so overwhelmed with pain they would become incontinent and a pool of sweat, blood, urine and feces would gather at the foot of their cross.
  - 10.2. For mockery a sign was posted above Jesus' head "*Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews*" (**John 19:19**)
11. Isaiah foretold this gruesome event (**Isaiah 53:3-4**)
12. Jesus experienced a shameful, painful, public death on the cross.
13. When Peter was crucified he did not see himself worthy to die a death like Christ so he asked to be hung upside down and he was.

### Thoughts on the cross

1. Ghandi: "*His death on the cross was a great example to the world, but that there was anything like a mysterious or miraculous virtue in it, my heart could not accept*"
2. John Knox: "*To remember Jesus, is to first of all remember his cross.*"
3. Friedrich Nietzsche: "*Jesus died too soon. If he had lived to my age he would have repudiated his doctrine.*"
4. Puritan John Owen: "*There is no death of sin without the death of Christ.*"
5. The cross is the most reviled, celebrated, popular symbol in all of human history.



6. The cross is still incredibly controversial, used in grotesque art, targeted by terrorists who vow to destroy all "cross bearers", lawsuits over placement of crosses.

## 7 truths that illuminate the significance of the cross

### 1. God is holy and without any sin.

- 1.1. God is altogether good and lovely. His holiness is the most mentioned attribute in all of scripture. (**1 John 1:5**)

### 2. God made us holy and without sin.

- 2.1. Everything God made was originally good including us as his image bearers. (**Gen. 1:31**)

### 3. Sin results in death.

- 3.1. Sin separates us from the living God.
- 3.2. Disconnected from God we are physically alive but spiritually dead. (**Col 2:13**)
- 3.3. We all die physically as God promised in the garden. (**Gen 2:16-17, Rom 6:23, Eph 2:1**)

### 4. Jesus is sinless.

- 4.1. The only one who has ever or will ever walk the earth perfect and blameless. (**John 8:46, Heb 4:15**)

### 5. We are sinful.

- 5.1. We are sinful by both choice and nature.
- 5.2. Our sin includes words, deeds, thoughts and motives.
- 5.3. We sin out of omission as well as commission. (**Ps 53:3, Isa 64:6, Rom 3:23, 1 John 1:8**)

### 6. Jesus became our sin.

- 6.1. On the cross Jesus was made to be the worst of us. He didn't sin, but was made sin. Jesus cried out that he was forsaken by the Father and at the moment he was the most hideous, ugly, wicked, defiled, evil, corrupt, rebellious, thing in all of creation. (**2 Cor 5:21, Isa 53:6**)
- 6.2. This was called by Martin Luther as "*the great exchange*".

### 7. Jesus died for us.

- 7.1. Jesus died in our place solely for our benefit, not His. Jesus took our penalty upon himself so we do not have to suffer the just penalty ourselves.



7.2. The wrath of God that should have fallen on us was placed on Jesus, not forced, but taken willingly. (**John 10:18**)

7.2.1. Scripture repeatedly emphasizes this point which theologians call *penal substitutionary atonement*.

7.3. In this list of scriptures emphasize the word *for*. (**Isa. 53:5, Isa. 53:12, Rom. 4:25, Rom. 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3, 1 Pet. 3:18, 1 John 2:2, Gal. 3:13**)

### The sacrifice

1. Some would protest that a loving God would not pour out his wrath on Jesus, but that's exactly what scripture says happened. (**Isa 53:10**)
2. Jesus makes it clear that he laid his life down out of love for us. (**John 15:12-13**)
3. Jesus should not be pitied on the cross but honored, he laid his life down, it wasn't taken.
4. Why so much talk about blood?
  - 4.1. God connects sin and blood to show sin results in death.
  - 4.2. God is sickened by sin as we are by blood.

### Day of Atonement

1. In the Old Testament the day of atonement was a day to deal with sin. Sacrificing healthy goats without blemish. The first goat was a sin offering, it was slaughtered and the blood was dripped over the ark of the covenant. That goat would take the guilt of their sin.
  - 1.1. This symbolizes God's wrath turned from sinners onto the goat. In the New Testament we see this wrath turned from sinners onto Jesus. This is called *propitiation*.
2. The second goat the High Priest would place his hands on and confess the sins of the people and then send it away to the wilderness (where the term scapegoat came from).
  - 2.1. This symbolizes *expiation*, where sins are taken from us and we are made clean.
3. Jesus' work on the cross cleanses **and** purifies us.