

**Title: Bones Plus Piercing Equals Jesus - John 19 28-42**

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**Read:**

<sup>28</sup>Jesus, seeing that everything had been completed so that the Scripture record might also be complete, then said, "I'm thirsty." <sup>29-30</sup>A jug of sour wine was standing by. Someone put a sponge soaked with the wine on a javelin and lifted it to his mouth. After he took the wine, Jesus said, "It's done . . . complete." Bowing his head, he offered up his spirit. <sup>31-34</sup>Then the Jews, since it was the day of Sabbath preparation, and so the bodies wouldn't stay on the crosses over the Sabbath (it was a high holy day that year), petitioned Pilate that their legs be broken to speed death, and the bodies taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man crucified with Jesus, and then the other. When they got to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn't break his legs. One of the soldiers stabbed him in the side with his spear. Blood and water gushed out. <sup>35</sup>The eyewitness to these things has presented an accurate report. He saw it himself and is telling the truth so that you, also, will believe. <sup>36-37</sup>These things that happened confirmed the Scripture, "Not a bone in his body was broken," and the other Scripture that reads, "They will stare at the one they pierced." <sup>38</sup>After all this, Joseph of Arimathea (he was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, because he was intimidated by the Jews) petitioned Pilate to take the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission. So Joseph came and took the body. <sup>39-42</sup>Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, came now in broad daylight carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. They took Jesus' body and, following the Jewish burial custom, wrapped it in linen with the spices. There was a garden near the place he was crucified, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been placed. So, because it was Sabbath preparation for the Jews and the tomb was convenient, they placed Jesus in it.

**Think:**

Years before Jesus was born Gods people were saying things about the bloke who would be the Son of God. In fact there were so many things said about who the Son of God would be, that it made it impossible for the wrong person to prove they were Christ. Heir to the throne of David, born in Bethlehem, crucified, pierced through hands and feet, born from a virgin, soldiers gambled for His clothing, and the list goes on and on. Having a faith in Jesus is more about the God the Holy Spirit guiding our hearts, but God does not ask us to remove our brains. He is up for us having questions and looking for answers that are logical. If we attack these things people predicted about Christ then we might be able to raise doubt about the odd one or two. You might say that there were lots of decedents of David, and the Messiah could have been anyone one of them. You could suggest that there were loads of people crucified. I'm sure that soldiers gambled a lot, and you could say they were just being soldiers. But if we use our brains it's very simple to work out the truth. Whilst there may have been many people that each one of these prophecies were true about; there was only one person that they were all true about. So what does this mean to us today? It means that as we go to school, college or work today we can walk tall, knowing that our Saviour Jesus Christ is as valid in our brains as he is in our hearts.

**Pray:**

Thank you Lord for giving me an mind that raises questions. Please help me seek the answers you have provided in your Bible. Amen.

**Action:**

What are the questions that puzzle you? Email [podcast@aftershock.org.uk](mailto:podcast@aftershock.org.uk) and we will see what Gods instruction book has to say about them, together. Maybe we can have some episodes on the questions you raise. Bye.