

How did the death of Jesus show he is God's son?

There are many strange things that happened to Jesus when he was executed that can only be explained when you get real about Him being God's Son.

1. He predicted how He would die and that millions of people will come to Him because He died there on the cross.

John 12:32-33: "If I be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men unto Me."

John 3:14-15: "As Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the desert, in the same way the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life."

Millions of people through history have come to the cross even though it is a cruel death, not attractive in any way. This is amazing and nothing like it exists in history. How His death can give joy and peace to millions is not possible for the natural mind to understand.

2. Old Testament prophets predicted exactly how He would die, long before the cross was known as a killing machine.

David (1000BC), in Psalm 22 wrote, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" which Jesus said on the cross.

This Psalm predicts the darkness, the mocking by priests and others at the cross, the type of suffering crucified men experience, piercing of hands and feet, stripping His garments and casting lots for them and collapse of hands and flow of sweat. Psalm 34 tells us no bone would be broken which was unusual as soldiers usually broke the legs to speed up death but Jesus was already dead. Isaiah (c.700BC), in chapter 53 wrote that He would bear our grief, carry our sorrows, be wounded for our transgressions, be bruised for our sins with His stripes we are healed.

Many other descriptions of Jesus' death are prophesied in the Old Testament. Even the most critical person

cannot get around the fact that this detail was given 700 -1000 years before it happened. This can only happen because God lives in e..... and knows e.....

Amazing things happened when Jesus was dying

a. A supernatural d..... over all the land from the 6th hour to the 9th hour. This was also reported by the non-Christian historian Thallus in AD55 in 'Histories', vol.3.

b. an e..... happened at the crucifixion and another at the resurrection.

c. The temple v..... was torn down the middle.

d. Jesus died when He decided to die.

After receiving vinegar, "He said, 'It is f.....!' Then He bowed His head and gave up His s....." John 19:30

A Roman soldier then stated that He was the Son of G.....

Amazing things happened at the tomb.

a. God chose two of the Jewish governing body (the Sanhedrin), J..... and N....., to have Jesus placed in their safe tomb so no one could take His body.

b. Joseph knew exactly when Jesus died and went to Pilate straightaway to ask for the b.....
before others even knew He was dead.

c. Nicodemus carried 100 pounds of o..... and both took Jesus' body down and prepared it for
burial. This is strange behavior for governing council members. All this was a fulfillment of Isaiah's
prophecy 700 years before: "And they made His grave with the wicked – but with the r..... at His
death."

How can anyone explain all this except to admit that God arranged it and told us it would happen? Can you
see how great God is and thank Him for being so loving that He sent His only Son to die a c.....
death to suffer the punishment we deserved for our sins? Will you now believe and take Him as your
Saviour and Master?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were the two words Jesus used to predict His death being by crucifixion?
2. If you were His disciple what would you have said about these words?
3. Explain how Psalm 22 is an amazing prediction of the crucifixion of Jesus.
4. How would you answer a person who told you the darkness at the crucifixion is only a myth?
5. Why do you think the Roman soldier stated Jesus was the Son of God?
6. What was most unusual about the tomb?
7. Which of the evidences would you use in witnessing?