



The Christ Conspiracy: Part 3

The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus The Christ



Rhawn Joseph, Ph.D.

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The Christ Conspiracy

The Christ Conspiracy
The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus Christ

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The Christ Conspiracy



ISBN: 0-9749755-0-8

1. Jesus 2. Christ 3. Religion
4. Christianity 5. Spirituality, 6. Passion Play



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The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus

The Christ Conspiracy: Part 3

Chapters 23-32 & Pages 125-190

Rhawn Joseph





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“The Kingdom of God, is within you.”

“With God all things are possible.”



“For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.”





The Christ Conspiracy: Jesus Must Die

And Jesus said, “Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles: And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again...”

“...Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews?

“And Jesus said unto him, So sayest thou.”

And the multitude cried out, “Let him be crucified.”

“When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it...”

“Then the soldiers took Jesus and platted a crown of thorns upon his head, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and smote him on the head.”

“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

Then they nailed his hands and feet to a cross...they crucified him... and in agony Jesus hung on the cross....

....and as the pitiless crowds sneered and mocked





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him, the dying Jesus, in mortal agony “cried with a loud voice, saying, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

And as the crowds laughed and jeered, “Jesus, cried again with a loud voice, and yielded up the ghost.”

Jesus Christ was dead. They had crucified him.

He had died to cleanse the world of evil and to redeem it of its sins.

God had now sealed the New Covenant.

“Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.” - Luke 24.



And yet, had Jesus truly died on the Cross?

And, if he had, was it according to plan?

Jesus had meticulously planned to cheat death, and to rise, from sleep, on the third day. Then, and only then, could Jesus be proclaimed The Christ, that is, King of the Jews, and thus, King of Israel.

But then, something went terribly wrong.





The Death and Ressurrection of Lazarus

Jesus again retired to the town of Bethany, home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, and which was but a day's journey from Jerusalem. Here Jesus began to plan his triumphal reentry into Jerusalem, during the Passover, and the events and actions which would lead to his Crucifixion and ressurection.

Jesus was not accompanied by his 12 diciples. Probably this was because he did not completely trust them, because of their "little faith," "unbelief" and "doubt." As Jesus well knew, one of his disciples would betray him, and the rest would run away and disavow him after he was arrested. Peter, at the end, denied him three times—exactly as Jesus predicted. Indeed, they would all desert him and run for their lives.

Jesus had more faith in Lazarus of Bethany, "who he loved." Bethany was a special place of respite and planning. It was here that Jesus met with his most trusted followers, including Mary, Martha, and Larazus "whom he loved."

In fact, Lazarus was of such importance to Jesus and his ministry, that unlike the other diciples, he was condemned to death by the chief priests (Luke 12:10).

It was Lazarus of Bethany, or some other unnamed resident of this well-to-do village, who was to help make possible Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem





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on the eve of the Passover. It was presumably the family of Lazarus who would prepare the last supper, and Lazarus who would provide the “colt” and the “ass” upon which Jesus would ride into Jerusalem—as prophesied.

And it was in Bethany, perhaps in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, that Jesus also laid out the final plans not only for his entry into Jerusalem, as the Messiah, but his own death and resurrection.

Jesus prophesied that he would be crucified and would be born again, and would rise from death, on the third day. “The third day” is repeatedly emphasized in all four Gospels. However, exactly what would transpire after he had risen, is not addressed, except that, we are to presume, based on scripture, that after he had risen and had been born again, Jesus would claim the kingship of Israel and the era of Righteousness would follow.

Throughout history there have been cults and secret societies which have embraced the “born again” concept. In some, initiation into the cult involves a ritualistic, symbolic death resulting in the symbolic destruction of an old world, and the birth of a new. To be born again, meant the initiate would have die, only to be born again into this new world; that is, into the brotherhood of the cult or religion. “Death” was meant to be a symbolic destruction of the initiate’s “old” personality, identity, and body and the attachments he had formed. Thus the initiate would be born anew.

In ancient times, the initiate might enter and be laid to “rest” in a tomb or grave. In more modern times, initiates might lie in a coffin. The tomb and the coffin





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serve not just as a receptacle for the “dead” body, but a “womb” from which the reborn will emerge.

Baptism, too, was a symbolic death, in which one’s sins are washed away, and one is reborn. However, following a symbolic death, one is born anew as someone completely different—someone who has awakened from a death-like slumber after experiencing the “glory” of god or the devil.

The “awakening” itself, might be signified by the experience of heavenly or godly glory.

“And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory.” -Luke 9:28.

In some cults and religions, the death was always a symbolic, ritualistic sleep-like “death” coupled with a symbolic rebirth, or renewal. In others, the initiate would take some powerful drug that would render him into a deep sleep or death-like coma—and the initiate might even have an “after death” or “near death” experience, including communing with angels, devils, or god. Then they would awake from that slumber and be born again. As Jesus told his disciples, “Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.”

However, in some instances, the initiate would actually die and could not be revived.

Bethany, the home of Lazarus, may have been a cult-center where symbolic deaths and rebirths were a commonplace occurrence for initiates.

The disciples of Jesus, in fact, make mention of





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traveling to Bethany, in order to “die” and thus to experience what they may have thought was a ritualistic death and rebirth—that is to take part in a ceremony that would make them part of an elite brotherhood.

Lazarus, whom Jesus loved, apparently participated in a ritual such as this, for when Jesus told his disciples, “Lazarus is dead, then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.” -John 11.

Jesus, too, in announcing the death of his beloved disciple, also believed, at least initially, that the death of Lazarus was not a true death, but that he “sleepeth” and that Lazarus was engaged in some ritualistic act—perhaps even rehearsing the death and resurrection that had been prophesied for the Messiah. This would explain why, when told Lazarus was going to die, that Jesus was unconcerned. Presumably he believed Lazarus would not really die, but was engaged in a religious ritual, one that Jesus would also engage in and which would result in incredible glory, power, and fame.

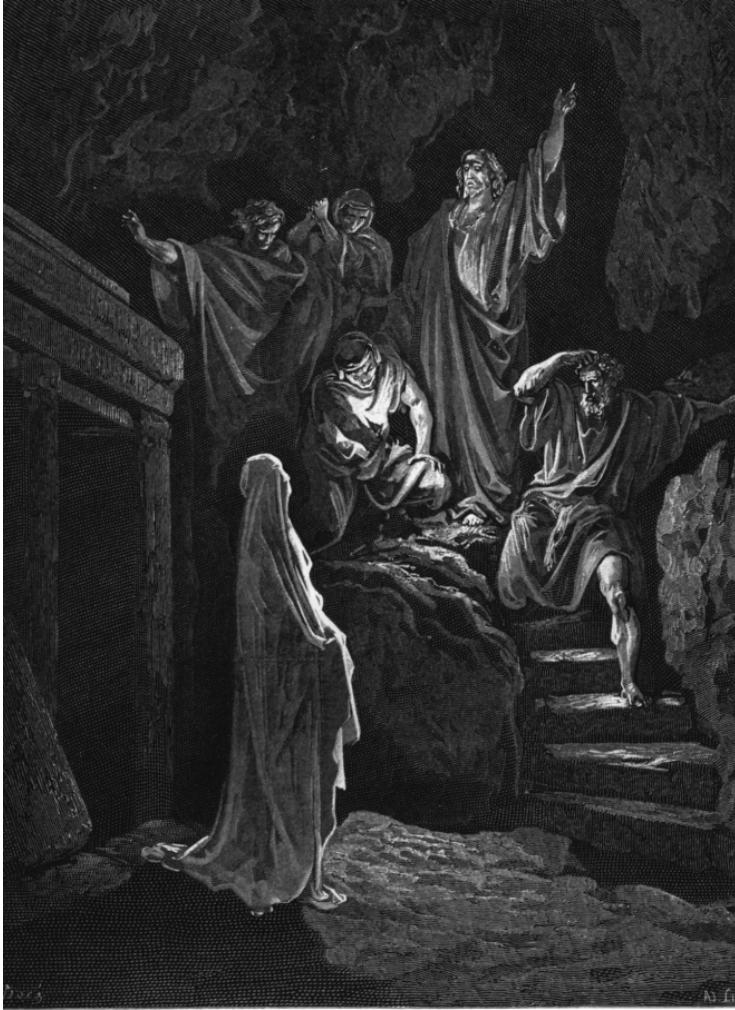
“Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. Therefore his sisters sent unto Jesus, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick. When Jesus heard that, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.” -John 11.

Indeed, Jesus was completely unconcerned, explaining that the purpose of this “sickness” was for experiencing the glory of God. Jesus thus, dismissed





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RESURRECTION OF LAZARUS

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth....
(John 11: 43)





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their request for help, and “he abode two days still in the same place where he was.”

Even after he was told that Lazarus was dead, Jesus was nonplused. Lazarus was not really dead, but was so deeply asleep that he appeared to have died. “Our friend Lazarus sleepeth,” he said. Lazarus, Jesus believed, would awake from that sleep, and thus would rise from death—no doubt, on the third day, exactly as had been prophesied for Jesus.

Finally, Jesus informs his disciples that “Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.” It was then that “Thomas” told the other disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

Apparently, however, something had gone terribly wrong. By time Jesus arrived in Bethany, “he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.”

Jesus is startled and upset by this news. Lazarus had been sleeping longer than he had expected. “Four days!”

Repeatedly Jesus had told his disciples that he, Jesus, would die and would rise on the “third day.” Lazarus too had died, but three days had passed and he was still dead.

Had Jesus, by waiting two days, miscalculated as to when and how long Lazarus had “sleepeth”?

Martha is so upset by the death of her brother, that she upbrades Jesus, accusing him of causing the death: “Said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.”

That she blames Jesus, suggests that she and Lazarus had been counting on Jesus to engage in some act that would have prevented Lazarus from truly





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dying; that the plan was for Jesus, as he himself admitted, to awaken Lazarus, from his sleep, on the third day. Unfortunately, Lazarus had “died” so quickly, and had gone to “sleep” perhaps a day early, that now four days had passed and now Lazarus was truly dead.

Mary, too, is weeping and upset, and she too upbrades and blames Jesus: “Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.”

Jesus is shocked by what has happened and he groans in anguish. For the first time, since hearing of the death of Lazarus, and upon being told that Lazarus was not “sleeping” but had now been dead “four days” Jesus begins to weep and cry.

“When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled...” and then “Jesus wept.” -John 11.

Where have you laid the body, Jesus asks, as he continues to groan and cry. He will call unto God, he promises, and will use all his power to bring Lazarus back to life.

“Jesus wept.....and again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?”





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“Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.” -John 11.





The Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem & the Temple of God

Lazarus had returned to the land of the living, and it was perhaps Lazarus, or an unnamed young priest, who appear to have played a major role in the events leading up to the crucifixion which would occur, as planned, during the Passover.

Likewise, it was presumably Lazarus, or one of the other secret disciples, who provided the “ass” and the “colt” upon which Jesus would make his triumphal ride, as the Messiah, into Jerusalem—as prophced.

As retold in Matthew 21: “And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them. All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way;





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ENTRY OF JESUS INTO JERUSALEM

And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord ... (Matthew 21:9)





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others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.”

Jesus had now taken the prophetic ride into Jerusalem, that would mark him as not just a “prophet” but the Messiah, the King of the Jews. And it was with this symbolic authority that Jesus directly challenged the Pharisees and the priests, as well as the Roman authorities.

As the crowds cheered in hysterical, jubilant excitement, Jesus dismounted and entered the Temple of Jerusulam—the Temple of God.

The Temple was separated into parts, including the Court of the Gentiles which was accessible to one and all regardless of faith or national origin. It was within the Court that merchants, money changers and bankers set up shop, the merchants selling offerings, the bankers loaning money, and the money changers charging various fees to convert and change currencies such as those bearing or stamped with idolatrous images, into Jewish currency. The chief priests were basically in charge of all these operations, receiving a cut of the profits, and thus, it was to their advantage to allow commerical activity within this holy place.

Jesus believed this to be unseemly, and strode into the Temple, in a heavenly rage, and began tossing out the money changers, and overthrowing their tables,





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THE BUYERS AND SELLERS DRIVEN OUT OF THE TEMPLE
My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves... (Luke 19: 46)





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“So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.” - John 2.

The priests, the scribes, and the Pharisees were astounded but they dared not act, as Jesus was again surrounded by the cheering screaming people: “And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased.”

The chief priests decided there and then that Jesus must die.

Jesus dared not stay in Jerusalem over night. His enemies would be afraid to arrest him when surrounded by the multitudes. They would not be so reticent during the evening hours when the people were asleep in their beds.

Again, Jesus retreated to Bethany, and presumably to the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Here he felt safe.

The next day, Jesus again entered the temple and began to preach. But as Jesus was surrounded by adoring crowds, his enemies challenged his teachings but dared not arrest or harm him.

“And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest





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thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?”

Jesus, instead, answered with a parable and mocked them: “The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof...And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.” - Matthew 21.

The Pharisees and priests therefore sought to challenge and discredit him, to trick him into making rebellious statements against the authority of God, so the people might turn away. And they sought to trick him into defying Rome and advocating treason—thus causing the Roman authorities to crucify him.

“Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him his disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Caesar’s. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s. When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.” -Matthew 22.

But Jesus was not finished. Instead, he launched





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CHRIST AND THE TRIBUTE MONEY

Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's... (Matthew 22: 21)





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into a scathing attack on the Pharisees, and the elders, and the chief priests and on all the hypocrites so as to establish his authority and that of God, over their own: They were but gaves that appear not, Jesus declared. “They be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: “The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat. They tie up heavy loads and put them on men’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. Therefore you will be punished more severely.”

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’” - Matthew 23.

Jesus, speaking in parables, had now announced his own death to the multitudes, and had fortold the destruction of Jerusalem if they rejected him.





Passover: Sacrifice of the Lamb of God

The Crucifixion would occur during Passover, and this too had prophetic significance. Passover is the celebration of salvation, freedom and liberation. Passover commemorates the miracles performed by God and Moses, when the Jews were delivered, by God, from slavery out of Egypt and began their journey to the Promised Land. It was these people, led by Moses, with whom God established his Covenant and offered salvation; if only they would obey His laws, which they did not.

Thus, it would only be fitting that the Jews would again be offered salvation by a Messiah whose death, during Passover, would establish a New Covenant and cleanse the Jews of their sins.

Jesus refers to himself as “a lamb to be slaughtered,” and this too has prophetic significance. The Passover was a bloody event which claimed the lives of all the first born of the Egyptians. However, God instructed the people, through Moses, that to escape death and in order to attain salvation, they must eat of the passover, and that the blood of a lamb must be sprinkled on their doors.

“And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their





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fathers, a lamb for an house and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.”



“And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.”

Pharaoh and the Egyptian people, had suffered enough and were now scared to death. The children of Israel were free to go. “And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.” -Exodus 12.





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Passover and the slaughter of the lambs, led to the freedom of the Jews who hurried forth, on their way to the Promised Land and the promise of the first covenant of the Lord.

Jesus was a lamb to be slaughtered in order to become a shepherd to his sheep, the people of “Israel”—which means “God’s strength.” Jesus, the lamb of god, and the good shepherded, was to shepherd the children of Israel to salvation, and to redeem them of their sins. But to do so he had to first become “a lamb to be slaughtered,” and this too would occur during Passover, and he would be sacrificed at the urgings of his own people. Yet, Jesus was confident, once he arose from the sleep of death, on the third day, that the people and all those who mocked him, would acclaim him the Messiah and the King of Israel. He had to be crucified, and in Jerusalem, there was no other way:

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.” -John 10.

And yet, for this lamb to be slaughtered, required that the very people he was to lead to salavation, should forsake him and try to kill him. The prophecies demanded that once he announced he was Jesus the Christ, the Messiah and King of the Jews, the Jewish





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people would reject and renounce him:

“Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father’s name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand. I and my Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him” -John 10.



Jesus had now done everything but openly proclaim himself Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, and the King of the Jews. Yet, in accordance with prophecy, it was imperative that the Messiah be crucified, in Jerusalem, by Gentiles, and not the children of Israel. To spare the Jews the guilt and responsibility for killing the Son of God, it would be not Jews who would kill Jesus, but the Gentiles—and this too was prophesied:



“Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!” -Matthew 20.





Jesus Betrayed: The Last Supper

Passover was now just six days away, and the enemies of Jesus were plotting his death: “Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and they plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him. But not during the Feast, they said, or there may be a riot among the people.” -Matthew 26.

Jesus, however, was plotting his own death which would take place not at the hands of the Jews, but as prophecied, at the hands of Gentiles.

And he would be betrayed by one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, a jealous man who loved money more than the Lord. “For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.” -John 6.

But Judas would first need be provoked. Mary of Bethany, would be the bait.

“Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the





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ointment. Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief." -John 12.

Judas was greedy for silver and gold, and jealous of his master's affection for this woman, Mary, sister of Martha and Lazarus. He may have also felt betrayed and abandoned upon realizing Jesus was in fact preparing to die, and there would be no kingdom, no honor, glory, or monetary reward.

Many, if not all the disciples had been expecting a reward, including Peter: "Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?" - Matthew 19.

Thus, upon watching Mary lovingly wiping the feet of Jesus with her hair, and insensed at the money he believed was wasted in anointing the feet of the soon to be dead, Jesus, Judas decided to act.

"Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him." -Matthew 26.

Lazarus, or some other secret disciple, now helped prepare the crucial last supper—the last meal of Jesus before his death.

"On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when the passover must be killed, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make





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preparations for you to eat the Passover?” And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready. So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.” -Luke 22.

We do not know if this “goodman” was indeed his disciple, Lazarus, “whom he loved.” And yet, we are told that a disciple, “whom Jesus loved” joined the other 12 during the last supper: “Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved” (John 13). And, we are told that this disciple is senior to all the other disciples not only because he is loved, and the close proximity he is given to the physical person of Jesus, but because the other disciples know that Jesus confides secrets to this beloved disciple which are not shared with the other men:

As they sat together at the last supper, “Jesus was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom Jesus spake. He then lying on Jesus’ breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he





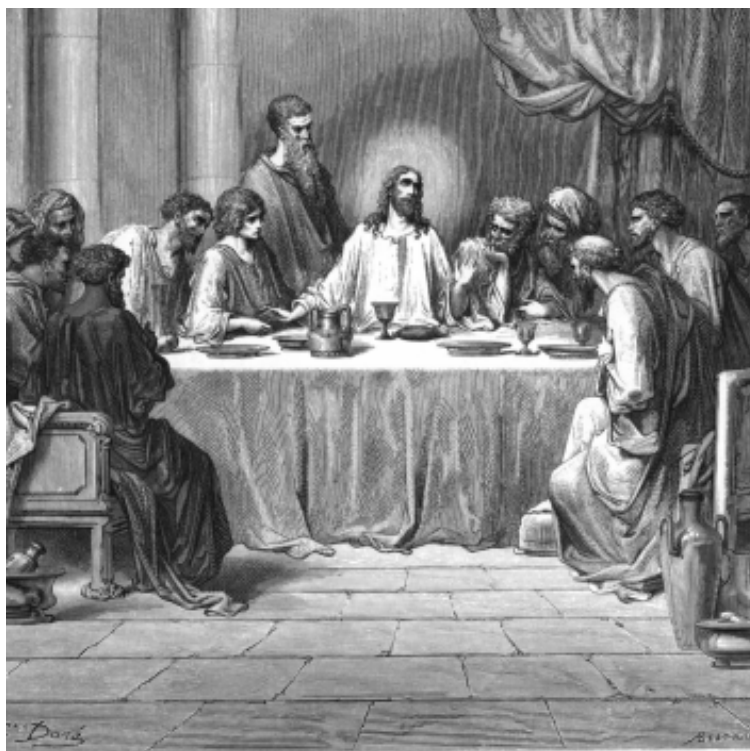
The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus

gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.” -John 13.

In the Gospel of John, only the disciple “whom Jesus loved” is forewarned as to the traitor’s identity.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus confirms to Judas, that he knows it is him:

“Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say



THE LAST SUPPER

Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. . . . (John 13: 31)





The Chirst Conspiracy

unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born. Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? And Jesus replied, so speaketh thou.” -Matthew 26.

Jesus then goes on to explain that all twelve of his disciples will betray him and would soon scatter in fear for their lives. Peter exclaimed that this was not so.

“Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.” -Matthew 26.

The last supper was of prophetic significance, as eating, and the betrayal leading to the sacrifice, symbolically recreated the eating of the passover, during the time of Moses, when God killed all the first born sons of the Egyptians—a terrifying event which led to the freeing of the Jews, the offering of the first Covenant, and their journey to the promised land.

“And the LORD spake unto Moses...Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth





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day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. And they shall eat the flesh in that night...and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment."

Jesus, with his 12 disciples, and the disciple whom he loved, would thus symbolically reenact the eating of the passover. Jesus would become the lamb to be slaughtered, and he would tell his disciples, this is my body, and this is my blood.

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." -Matthew 26.





The Arrest and Trial of Jesus Christ

Jesus had but one day to live and he felt sorrowful, and perhaps even a bit fearful at what was to come to pass and worried about his ability to withstand the tortures: “O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me...the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

As Jesus well knew, he would die alone, on the cross. His disciples would run away and deny him, for as Jesus knew, they had little faith. He had no hope but God; that and his belief he would rise again on the third day. All he need do was have faith in the “Father” and “drink” from the “cup,” and then the prophecies and “thy will be done.”

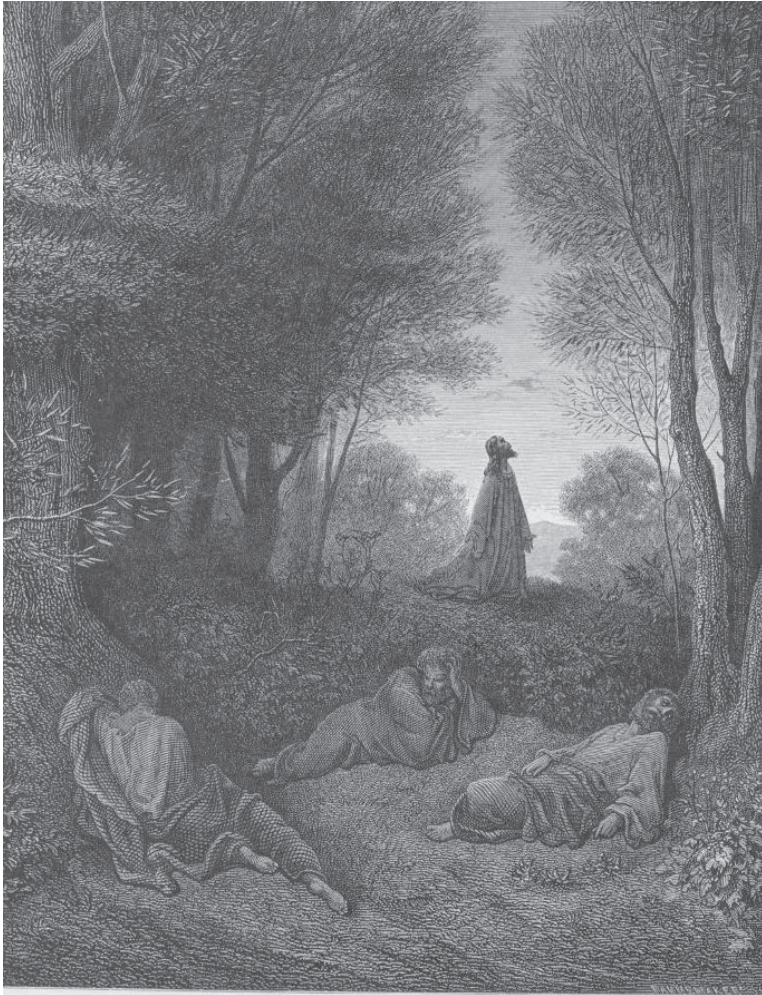
Jesus was sorrowful and depressed. The end was near.

“Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch over me. And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter,





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JESUS PRAYING IN THE GARDEN

And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. . . . (Matthew 26: 39)





The Chirst Conspiracy

What, could ye not watch over me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time” and then it was time.” -Matthew 26.

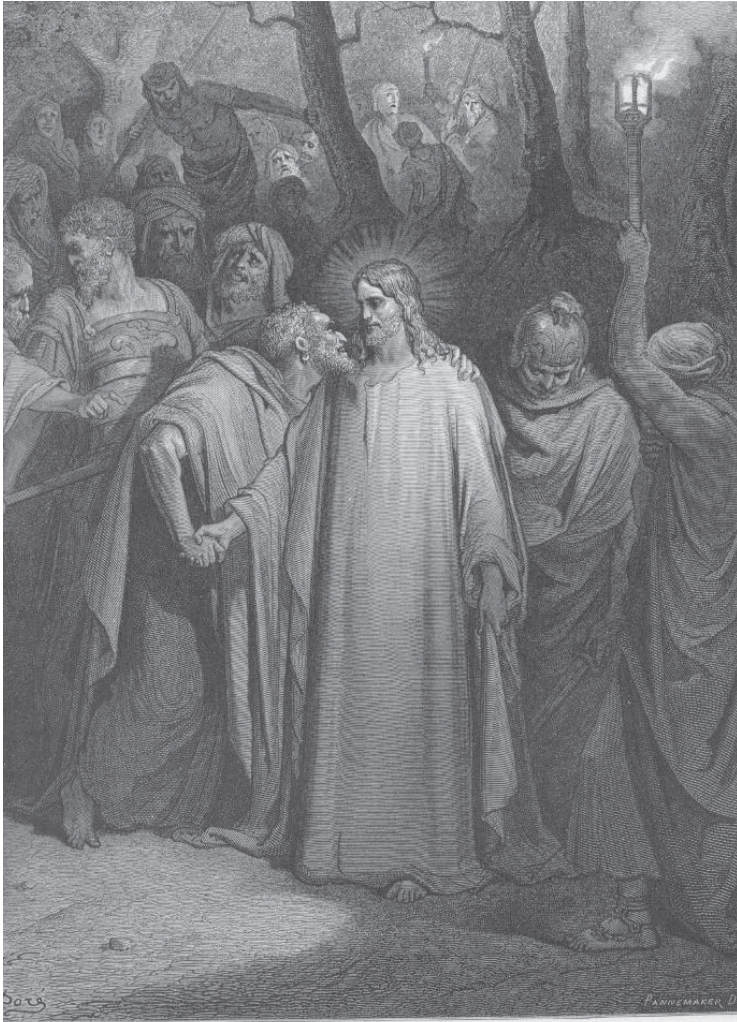
Jesus arose and said: “behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me. And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him. And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took him. And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest’s, and smote off his ear. Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.” -Matthew 26.

Jesus had instructed his followers that they must not resist, lest they all be killed on the spot. Jesus was determined that he alone would go to his death, and would be tortured and crucified. As Jesus said: “all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus



THE JUDAS KISS

And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he . . . (Mark 14: 44)





The Chirst Conspiracy

be fulfilled....Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled” (Matthew 26). His followers, his 12 disciples, had abandoned him to his fate. Even Peter, “the rock” who at first offered minimal resistance, would run away and hide, denying Jesus three times before the cock crows in the morning.

“Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech betrayeth thee. Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.” -Matthew 27.

Jesus went willingly with his captors who mocked and savagely beat him. “Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands, Saying, Prophesy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?”

As he had prophesied, Jesus was dragged before the chief priests of Israel: “And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying... Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of





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heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, What need we any further witnesses? Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death. And some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to buffet him, and to say unto him, Prophecy: and the servants did strike him with the palms of their hands.” -Mark 14.

Jesus had now been condemned to death by the chief priests of the Jews. But as it was Passover, and as Jesus was claiming to be the king of the Jews, the sentence could not yet be carried out except by the Roman representative, the governor, Pontius Pilate.

“When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor.” -Matthew 27.

Pilate was not impressed with the charges. So what if Jesus, this harmless preacher, was claiming to be “the Son of the Blessed.” Pilate could see no crime in that. Men were condemned to death for high treason and crimes against the Roman empire, not for preaching and prophecizing. Insofar as Pilate could tell, Jesus had committed no crime.

The priests argued otherwise. They declared Jesus a traitor who was guilty of sedition. Jesus, they told Pilate, was claiming he was King of the Jews.

But “when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, Jesus answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto him, Hearst thou not how many things they witness against thee? And he answered him to never a word;





The Chirst Conspiracy

insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.”

“And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews?”

Finally, Jesus was prepared to seal his fate. He would admit he was the Messiah, the King of the Jews, and this would be a death sentence. It would be treason against the Imperial Roman Empire. In accordance with Roman law, he would be crucified.

“Art thou the King of the Jews?” Pilate asked again.

And Jesus said unto him, So sayest thou.”

As prophecied, he would be killed, but not by the Jews, and not for breaking Jewish law. He would be crucified by the Gentiles, for treason and sedition. There could be only one king of the Jews—the Roman emperor.

And yet, Pilate was not ready to play his part in this divine drama: “Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man.”

The priests, scribes, and Pharisees were outraged. Jesus must die, they demanded. He was a revolutionary. He had committed treason. Jesus of Nazareth, of Galilee, was claiming to be the Messiah, the king of the Jews. It was blasphemy. Crucify him, they demanded.

Pilate was not so inclined: “When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean. And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time. And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to





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see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. Then he questioned with Jesus in many words; but Jesus answered him nothing. And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.” -Luke 23.

Herod had professed to be a Jew. Jesus said nothing because it had been prophesied that the Messiah would be killed not by Jews, but by Gentiles. Pilate, a Gentile, must condemn him to be crucified.

“Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. Pilate saith unto him, What is truth?”

Jesus had sealed his fate. He had been born to be king, and he had committed treason and sedition by claiming the crown. Pilate had little choice but to order his death by crucifixion. Yet, still Pilate hesitated.





The Chirst Conspiracy

There was another more deserving of death, Barabbas, a Zealot, a true revolutionary who posed a direct threat to Roman rule. Perhaps he could persuade the Jews to let Jesus go in return for the life of Barabbas.

“And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all. But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the passover: will ye therefore that I release unto you the King of the Jews?” -John 18.

Pilate was still prepared to give Jesus his freedom, to exchange the life of Jesus for a man whom he perceived to be a greater threat to Roman rule—Barabbas, a man described as a thief and revolutionary; that is, a Zealot.

“Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.”

“Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. Let him be crucified. When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.”

“Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and our children. Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified...and they took Jesus and led him away” (Matthew 27, Mark 15, John 19).





The Crucifixion

To be scourged and then crucified was to be condemned to a horrible and prolonged torture in which the victim might suffer in agony for several days before finally dying.

Initially, the victim would be whipped until the skin peeled away and blood gushed from his wounds. His arms would be stretched lengthway, sometimes behind his back and neck, and his hands and wrists would be tied or nailed to a heavy cross beam. The victim, now attached to the cross, would then be lifted upright. Often the feet would also be nailed to the cross so as to prolong the agony. If he were left to dangle by his hands, without any support, there would be so much pressure and compression on his chest, he would have difficulty taking a breath and might suffocate.

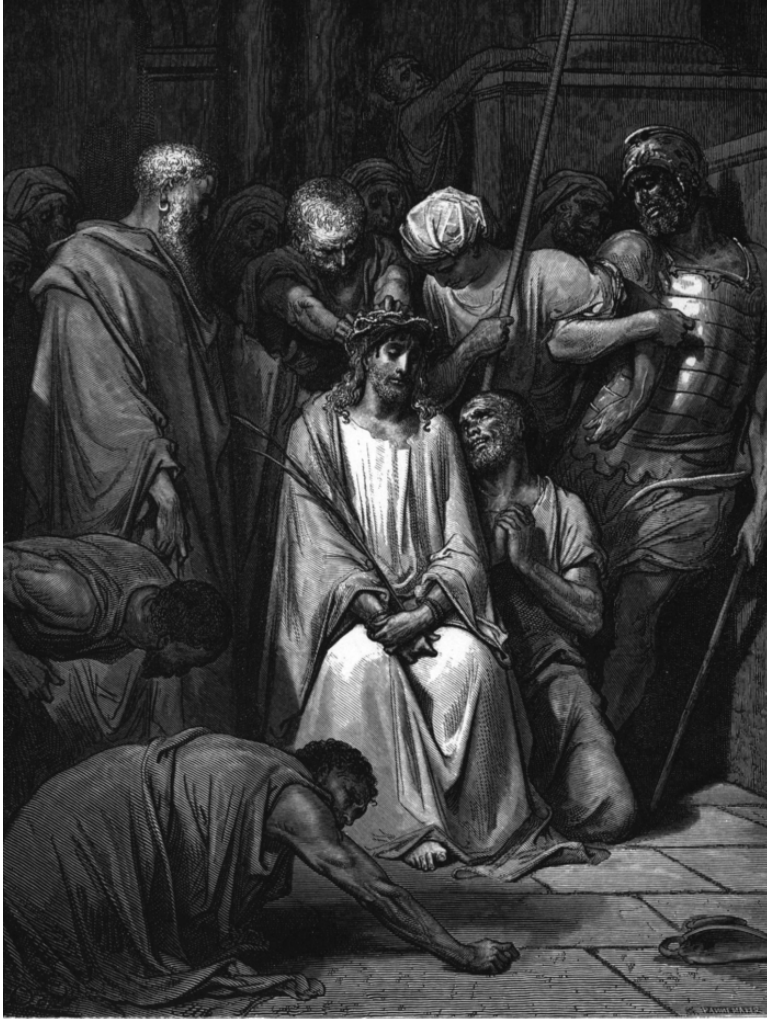
The nailing of the feet was the more prolonged form of crucifixion. If his feet were also nailed to the beam, the victim would be able to “stand” upright, thus taking some of the incredible pressure off his arms and chest, though he would still be in considerable agony. Victims crucified in this fashion, could take several days to die, as was the case, with the two thieves who hung from their crosses and were still alive after Jesus had been pronounced dead.

If the victim looked as if he might immediately die, thus cheating the Romans of their full measure of





The Chirst Conspiracy



THE CROWN OF THORNS

And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe. . . . (John 19: 2)





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus



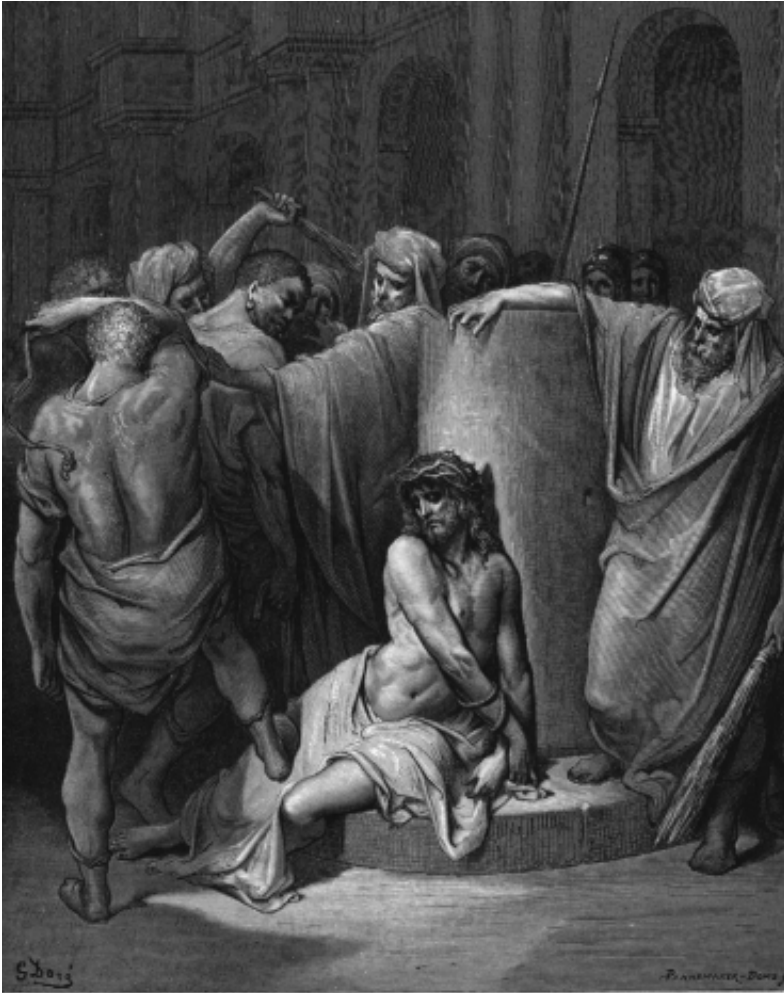
CHRIST MOCKED

They bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!
... (Matthew 27: 29)





The Christ Conspiracy



JESUS SCOURGED
And Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him. . . . (John 19: 1)





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus

punishment, he might be given vinegar to drink. Vinegar has a stimulating effect, arousing the victim to wakefulness. Thus those to be crucified were usually given vinegar before and after they were nailed to the cross.

In some cases, after the victim had hung from the cross for several days, the Romans might break their legs, as a show of mercy, thus sending them into shock, and a quick death. They would then be impaled, with a spear, to allow blood and fluid to slowly drain from the body. The body would then mummify as it remained hanging from the cross, sometimes for weeks: Crucifixion was not just punishment, but served as a warning to all who dared break Roman law.

Jesus was to be nailed, hand and foot, to the cross. His was to be the most horrendous form of crucifixion.

“Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him.”

“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.”

“And when they were come unto a place called





The Christ Conspiracy



NAILING CHRIST TO THE CROSS

Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. . . (John 19: 18)





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus



THE ERECTION OF THE CROSS

And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots . . .
(Matthew 27: 35)





The Chirst Conspiracy

Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.”

“And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. And sitting down they watched him there; And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

“And they that passed by reviled him saying, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.”

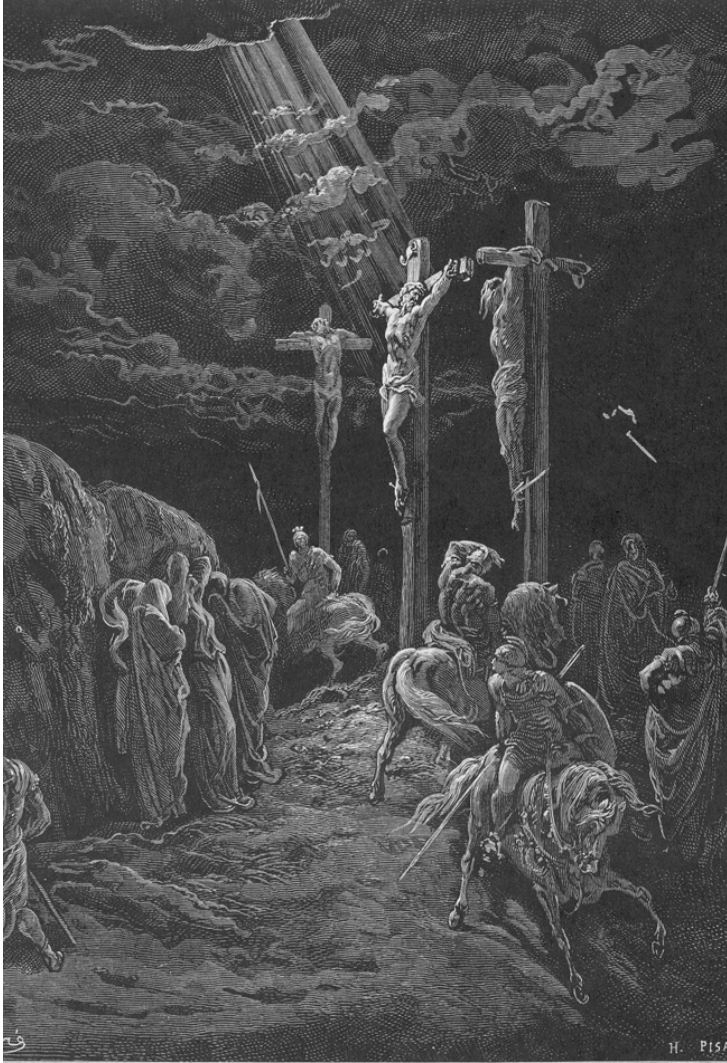
“Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left. And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God.” - Luke 23

“Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.”





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus



THE CRUCIFIXION

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. . . .
(Luke 23: 34)





The Chirst Conspiracy

Jesus hung, nailed to the cross for the next 3 to 6 hours. Everything, so far, had taken place according to prophecy, and exactly as Jesus had predicted and planned. He had been rejected by the leaders of the people, betrayed into the hands of the chief priests, and had been crucified by the Gentiles.

Now the next phase of the plan would begin to unfold: His death and resurrection.

As Jesus knew, because it was the Passover, and the eve (“preparation”) of the sabbath day, his “dead” body, “should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day” (John 19). However, as Jesus also knew, because it was the eve of the Sabbath, and in order to avoid offending Jewish sensitivities, if he was still alive that evening, the Romans would break his legs, thus giving him the coup de gras, and thus killing him so his dead body could be taken down from the cross before the sabbath.

It was thus important that Jesus should die, on the cross, without any assistance from the Romans, that same day.

Jesus may have been counting on his secret disciples to help make his death a speedy reality, otherwise his legs would be broke and he would truly die.

Jesus had other secret disciples, who, like the “disciple whom he loved,” stood at the foot of the cross. These included “a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus’ disciple,” as well as a friend and “an honourable counsellor” of Pilate’s court (Mark 15; Matthew 21). When Jesus sleepth unto death, it would be Joseph of Arimathaea,





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus

who would ask Pilate for permission to remove the body, and place it “in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock” (Matthew 21).

And, according to prophecy, like Lazarus, Jesus would awaken and live again. To the astonishment of the Pharisees, the chief priests, the scribes, and the Gentiles, he would rise “on the third day,” and then the Messiah, Jesus the Christ, would be proclaimed King of the Israel, and usher in the Era of Righteousness, in which all people and all the nations of the world would live in harmony and without war or sin. Universal justice would prevail and the ideal of the Brotherhood of Man would become a reality. The Messiah, Jesus Christ, this man whose message was peace and love, would unseal God’s New Covenant and would rule the world. War, poverty, and injustice, would be no more.

The chief preists, the elders, the Pharisees, and even the Gentiles would be so astonished by his ressurection, that they would surely broke no opposition and would declare him King.

Jesus hung, nailed to the cross for 6 to 9 hours. He was in horrible agony. A crowd of men stood at the foot of the cross, many of them laughing and mocking him. Others, such as Joseph of Arimathaea, presumably stood in silence, waiting and watching saying nothing.

After the 9th hour, and the fall of darkness, Jesus suddenly “cried with a loud voice, saying, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

Now a curious thing occurred. “And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he





The Chirst Conspiracy

calleth Elias. And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.” -Mark 15.

Vinegar, we know, acts as a stimulant. Twice, already, Jesus had refused to drink. The first instance was when he was being led to his crucifixion: “They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink.” Then again, after he had been hung on the cross, “the soldiers mocked him, offering him vinegar” (Luke 23:36), yet, again, he did not drink.

However, after the 9th hour, when Jesus cried out: “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” (“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me”), as if on cue, one of the men ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with what we have been told is “vinegar,” and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. This time, Jesus drank. And yet, although vinegar should have aroused Jesus to full wakefulness, exactly the opposite happened.

“And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.”

Jesus Christ was dead. They had crucified him.





The Death of Jesus

Jesus, upon taking a sip of “vinegar” gave up the ghost, and to all appearance, he was dead.

Or was he?

“Our friend sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.”-John 11.

Usually men who are crucified take several days to die. Pilate was quite surprised, when told by Joseph of Arimathaea, that Jesus had died that same day, and after being on the cross for less than 9 hours. In fact, he didn't believe it. Before consenting to Joseph's request, Pilate asked one of his soldiers to make sure that Jesus was truly dead.

“And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead.” -Mark 15.

If Jesus was in fact dead, his body could be taken down and given to Joseph whose plan it was to quickly transport the body to his private estates.

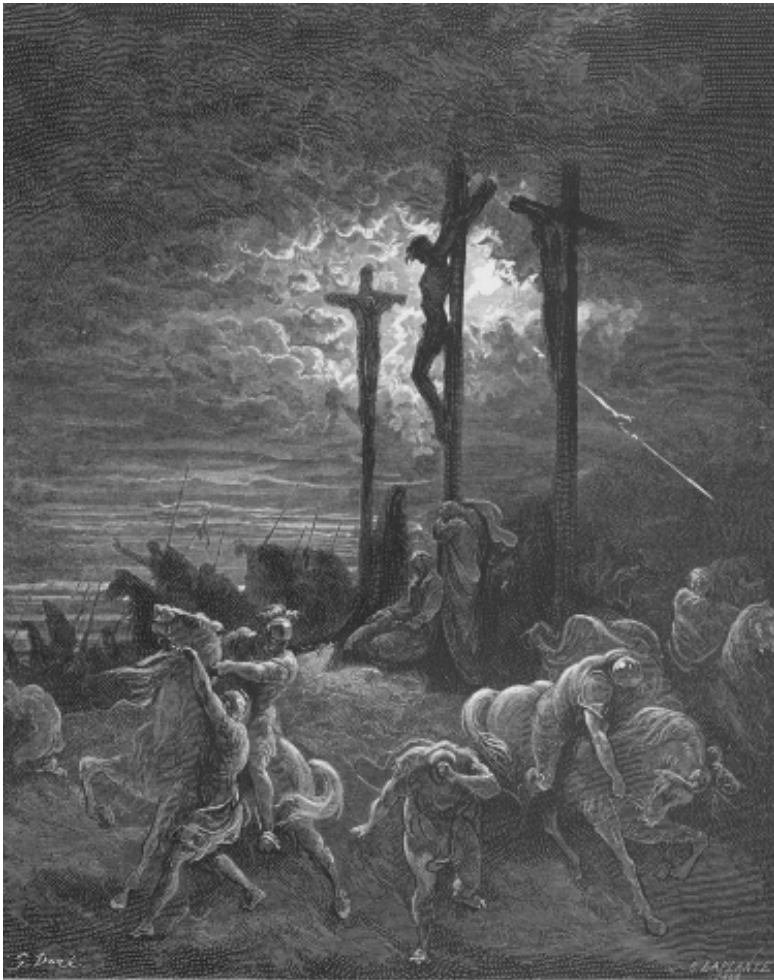
And then the unexpected occurred.

The other two men who had been crucified along with Jesus, still lived. Because of the Sabbath, they too





The Chirst Conspiracy



THE DARKNESS AT THE CRUCIFIXION

And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. . . (Luke 23: 44)





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus

must be taken down from the cross. But they would have to be killed first. Their legs would be broken: “The Jews, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs.” -John 19.

The two thieves, their legs broken, would have immediately gone into shock and died. By contrast, and as planned, and according to prophecy, the body of Jesus would be taken down from the cross, intact, and then quickly transported to the home and private estate of his disciple, Joseph.

According to prophecy, in three days, Jesus would rise from the dead, he would be declared King by acclamation, and the Era of Righteousness would begin. Love and peace would prevail. It was to be the Brotherhood of Man. The world would war no more.

And then the totally unexpected.

“But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.” - John 19.

Although men can bleed to death, dead men don't bleed.

If he was not dead already, if, instead, he was in a deep coma-like sleep induced by the “vinegar” he had drank, he would now go into shock and bleed his life away.

It was a wound from which no man could survive.





The Chirst Conspiracy

Jesus had been mortally wounded. If he had not been stabbed, all might have gone according to plan, and he would have awakened and risen from the “dead” on the third day, becoming the King of Israel, and ushering in a new covenant and the brotherhood of man.

If he was not dead already, he soon would be—and this too was according to prophecy.

As prophecied, Jesus had been betrayed, crucified, and now he was dead.

Jesus died on the cross.

They had killed him.





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus



**Images from the Shroud of Turin--The purported
burial shroud of Jesus**





The Chirst Conspiracy





The Destruction of Jerusalem

“And as the Lord took delight in doing you good and multiplying you, so the Lord will take delight in bringing ruin upon you and destroying you.” - Deuteronomy 26:63.

“And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.” -Matthew 10.

“Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not...But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.” -Matthew 11.

Approximately 25 years after the death of Jesus, and as he prophesied, the city of Jerusalem, the city of God, was reduced to rubble and ashes; the Romans flying high their flags and the emblem of the Imperial Golden Eagle, swooped down, upon the Jews, razed the city and showing no regard for young or old, destroyed the Temple—exactly as had been prophesied:





The Chirst Conspiracy

“The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, which will swoop down like the eagle... a ruthless nation, that will show the old no regard and the young no mercy.” -Deuteronomy 28:47-50.

“The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.” -Matthew 21

One hundred years after the death of Jesus, in the year 135 AD, the Roman Emperor Hadrian decreed the expulsion of all the remaining Jews from Judea. Jerusalem, renamed Aeilia Capitolina, was now a Roman city.



“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’” - Matthew 23.





The Anti-Christ

Jesus warned his disciples that after his death, others would come in his name “claiming, ‘I am the Christ’” in order to deceive the people and lead them astray:

“And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, he is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.” -Mark 13.

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, “Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be





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famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." -Matthew 24.





The Life, Death & Marriage of Jesus





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About the Author: Rhawn Joseph, Ph.D.

Dr. Rhawn Gabriel Joseph, obtained his Ph.D. from UHS/The Chicago Medical School, and completed his Internship and training at the Yale University Medical School and the VAMC Depts. of Neurology, Neuropsychology, and Clinical Psychology. Dr. Joseph is the author of several best selling text books, and his works have received rave reviews in scientific journals. He has published numerous scholarly and scientific articles on spirituality and religious experience, and he is the editor of and a major contributor to the widely acclaimed text, NeuroTheology: Brain, Science, Spirituality, Religious Experience (See BrainMind.com).

