

# Who Crucified Jesus?

**“When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!” All the people answered, let His blood be on us and on our children!” (Matthew 27:24-25)**

Who crucified the Lord Jesus? Who crucified my beloved Lord! Fingers were pointing to the people around. Many blamed governor Pontius Pilate. Others pointed to the Roman soldiers. The crowds were reasoning to one another. But somebody plainly said, **“I crucified the Lord.”**

*A background from the Old Testament:* The chosen people of God were in the land of Egypt for 430 years and became slaves in the hands of Pharaoh. There they lived a difficult and wretched life. And as they cried to God day and night, the Lord heard them and said to Moses, **“Therefore, say to my people: I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.” (Exodus 6:6)** Plague after plagues were sent by God through Moses and Aaron, but only the plague of death on the firstborn men and animals made the Pharaoh of Egypt to send these slave people away.

*The Passover Feast* commemorated the event when the chosen people of God were freed from slavery in Egypt. They were instructed by God through Moses to slaughter a lamb and put some of its blood on the top and sides of the doorframes of their houses; the meat roasted over the fire and to be eaten with haste inside their houses. That night death of all the firstborn came to the land of Egypt, but God did not permit the destroyer to enter the houses of His people and He saw the blood of the Passover lamb on their doors. **“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.” (Exodus 6:13)** The Pharaoh allowed the people to leave Egypt and they started a new life. They were no longer slaves but free people of God.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and the penalty of sin is death. In the Old Testament, the blood of the Passover lamb caused the people of God to be saved from death. But in the New Testament until this time, God does not ask us to slaughter a lamb because He offered His own lamb once and for all. **“The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, ‘Look, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.’ (John 1:29)**

*The word ‘EASTER’ in Greek is Pascha, which means Passover:* We Christians celebrate Easter Sunday or the day of the Lord’s resurrection. Jesus Christ offered His own body and blood like a Passover lamb. He died on the cross to redeem us from sins. **“He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.” (Hebrews 7:27)** And on the third day He rose from the dead. The resurrection of Christ concentrates the whole salvation of man. It marks the turning point of a believer. The Lord’s resurrection introduces a new life, a new creation in Christ who will never be condemned of sin and death because Jesus died on his behalf.

**“Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up: ‘You know nothing at all! You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.’ He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the chosen nation, and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one.” (John 11:49-52)**

Jesus Christ suffered because of the leaven of Pharisees, because of the greediness of Judas, because of the shouts of the crowd, because of the washed hands of Pilate, because of the position of Caiaphas, because of the nails of the Roman soldiers, and many more reasons to identify. But one thing is certain: *the blood of Jesus frees us from slavery of all sins.* **“But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace upon Him.” (Isaiah 53:5)** **“Yet it was Lord’s will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer.” (Isaiah 53:10)**

Then who crucified Jesus, the lamb of God? **“All the people answered, let His blood be on us and on our children!” (Matthew 27:25)** For the benefit of the whole world that is in the bondage of sin and death, it is the plan of God to give new life, the eternal life through the blood of His son. **“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)** We do not accuse anyone for the crucifixion of Jesus on the cross because His death gives life to many, as God the Father has planned.

*My dear and Beloved:* You and me being a sinner is the reason why Jesus Christ gave His own life. God loves you and me. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is God’s great plan and way to save the humankind. The wisest thing we can do to celebrate or to remember *Easter* is not to question Jesus’ death, but to accept Him as personal Lord and Saviour to receive the new and eternal life He offers. Do you want the power of His blood be on you? Say this prayer from your heart:

*My Prayer:* **“Lord Jesus, forgive me, I am a sinner. Thank you for dying on my place. You are my Lord and Saviour. Please come into my heart and let the Holy Spirit take full control of my life. Let your holy blood be always upon me, to cleanse me, and protect me from death and sin. In Jesus’ name I pray.” Amen!**