

Christ's Final Hours

SIGNAGE TRANSCRIPT

The following is a transcript of the signage contained within our Christ Final Hours walk-thru.
For the full experience, please join us in person during Passion Week!
Learn more at coramdeobible.church/easter.



SACRIFICE & ATONEMENT (Lower Classroom)

Old Covenant Sacrifice #1 – Burnt Offering

...And the priest shall offer all of it and burn it on the altar; it is a burnt offering...with a pleasing aroma to the Lord.
– Leviticus 1:13b

Description – Offered every morning and evening, the burnt offering was an act of atonement for the whole nation of Israel

Significance – A voluntary act of worship; an expression of devotion, commitment, and complete surrender to God

The Cost / Elements Involved – A male bull, ram, or bird without defect; the entire sacrifice was to be burned on the altar

Old Covenant Sacrifice #2 – Peace Offering

...It is a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord...and the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten on the day of his offering. He shall not leave any of it until morning. – Leviticus 3:5b, 7:15

Description – The peace (fellowship) offering was an act of thanksgiving offered every year at Pentecost or spontaneously as worshipers felt led

Significance – A voluntary act of worship; a symbol of peace and fellowship with God

The Cost / Elements Involved – Any animal from a herd or flock without defect and various breads; a portion was given to God; the remaining was shared as part of a communal meal

Old Covenant Sacrifice #3 – Sin Offering

...This is how you are to deal with those who sin unintentionally by doing anything that violates the LORD's commands.
– Leviticus 4:2b

Description – As the most common sacrifice, the sin offering made atonement for the specific and unintentional sins of an individual or group

Significance – A mandatory sacrifice to make atonement for breaking God's commands; a symbol of the seriousness of sin

The Cost / Elements Involved – A young bull, goat, sheep, or bird without defect; the required sacrifice varied depending on the person's social status

Old Covenant Sacrifice #4 – Guilt Offering

If anyone...sins unintentionally in any of the holy things of the LORD...he shall also make restitution...and shall add a fifth to it.... – Leviticus 5:15a, 16a

Description – The guilt offering made atonement for an offense rather than an individual

Significance – A mandatory sacrifice to make atonement for unintentional sins against others or the holy things of God

The Cost / Elements Involved – A ram or lamb without defect; restitution to the injured party was to be made prior to the offering; the guilty was to repay all that was taken, plus one fifth the value

PASSION WEEK EVENTS (Gym)

Sunday – The Triumphal Entry

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!” – John 12:12-15

Wednesday – The Plot to Kill Jesus

When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said to His disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name is Caiaphas, and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill Him. But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.” – Matthew 26:1-5

During Passover – Judas’ Betrayal

Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I deliver Him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray Him. – Matthew 26:14-16

Thursday (6pm) – The Last Supper: A Passover Meal

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” – Luke 22:7-8

The Passover Seder – The Feast of Unleavened Bread

The Passover Meal celebrates the deliverance of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt and recalls the night when the faithful were protected by the blood of the lamb.

“And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever.” – Exodus 12:17

Passover Meal Elements:

Karpas (kar-pas) – A vegetable—such as parsley—that is dipped into salt water near the beginning of the Passover Meal. It represents the growth and fertility of the Jewish people of Egypt.

Salt Water Bowl – The karpas is dipped into the salt water and the excess is shaken off. The drops resemble the sweat and tears of the Israelites during their time of oppression and slavery in Egypt.

Zeroa' (zrō-ā) – The roasted lamb symbolizes the sacrifice of the spotless lamb whose blood was put upon the door posts causing the physical plague of death to “passover” the homes of the Israelites who trusted God’s redemption.

Beitzah (bayt-sah) – A roasted egg recalls that the lamb was slaughtered at the Temple during the Passover season.

Maror (mār-ōr) – A bitter herb—such as horseradish—that symbolizes the bitterness and the harshness of the slavery of the Israelites.

Chazeret (khah-zer-et) – An inedible bitter herb that symbolizes the atrocity of Pharaoh’s decree to murder the Jewish baby boys.

Charoset (hār-ō-set) – An apple, wine, and nut mixture that represents the mortar used by the Jewish slaves to build the storehouses in Egypt. Its sweetness is a reminder of the hope of future redemption in the midst of hardship.

Matzah (maht-sah) – Unleavened bread (bread made without yeast) recalls the haste with which the Israelites fled Egypt. In Scripture, leaven is also frequently equated with sin. During Passover, abstaining from leaven is a symbol of removing sin from our lives.

> THE BREAD OF LIFE

At the Last Supper, Jesus states that the matzah signifies His body. Giving the bread a whole new meaning, He broke it and distributed it, saying “This is my body, which is [broken] for you” (1 Corinthians 11:24a).

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” – Matthew 26:26

The 4 Cups – The four cups represent God’s four promises to the Israelites as seen in Exodus 6:6-7:

1. Cup of Sanctification – “*I will bring you out.*”
2. Cup of Deliverance – “*I will deliver you.*”
3. Cup of Redemption – “*I will redeem you.*”
4. Cup of Praise – “*I will take you to be my people.*”

> THE CUP OF REDEMPTION

At the Last Supper, Jesus expands God’s promises to Jew and Gentile alike by equating the third cup with His blood (1 Corinthians 11:25).

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins.” – Matthew 26:27-28

The Last Supper – The Practice of Communion

With the death of Jesus, the Passover Seder was given new meaning. It’s now The Lord’s Supper to commemorate the New Covenant—His promise of salvation, bought and guaranteed by His blood.

“Do this in remembrance of me.” – 1 Corinthians 11:24b

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. – 1 Corinthians 11:26

Friday (4am) – Arrest of Jesus

“Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.” And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man. Seize Him and lead Him away under guard.” And when he came, he went up to Him at once and said, “Rabbi!” And he kissed Him. And they laid hands on Him and seized Him. – Mark 14:42-46

Friday (6am) – The Five Trials of Jesus

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. And they bound Him and led Him away and delivered Him over to Pilate the governor...Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so."
– Matthew 27:1-2, 11

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified. – Mark 15:15

During the Trials – Peter's Denial

And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. – Luke 22:60b-62

Friday – The Suffering of Jesus

Jesus was Beaten

Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking Him as they beat Him. They blindfolded Him and kept asking Him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" – Luke 22:63-64

They Spit on Him – Jesus was mocked and beaten during His trials, just as He had prophesied: "*The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed...*" (Luke 9:22a).

They Struck Him – Jesus was blindfolded and repeatedly struck in the face during the trials. Being blindfolded meant that He couldn't protect Himself and the beating would have been that much more destructive.

They Mocked Him – The Jewish leaders' abuse of Jesus and their mocking questions of "Who is it that struck you?" demonstrated their disbelief in Jesus' prophetic gifts and their scorn for His claims.

I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. – Isaiah 50:6

Jesus was Scourged

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified. – Mark 15:15

The Roman Scourge – Scourging (flogging) was a legal preliminary to every Roman execution and was a horrifically cruel punishment. Those condemned to it were tied to a post and beaten. In many cases, the flogging itself was fatal.

Cat of Nine Tails – The Romans used a whip made of several strips of leather, in which were embedded pieces of bone, metal, and glass. As the soldiers struck Jesus' back with full force, the whip would cause deep wounds and would cut into the skin and tissue, exposing muscle and bone.

His Stripes – It is not known exactly how many stripes (lashes) Jesus endured. The Jews limited the number of stripes to a maximum of 40 (typically 39), but no such limitation was recognized by the Romans.

...His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind.
– Isaiah 52:14b

Jesus was Mocked

And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying "Hail, King of the Jews!"
– Matthew 27:28-29

Hail, King of the Jews! – Roman soldiers in Jerusalem were infamous for playing cruel games with condemned prisoners. After the scourge, they began to mock Jesus. Amused that this weakened man had claimed to be a king, they placed a robe on His shoulders, a crown of thorns on His head, and a wooden staff as a scepter in His right hand.

Crown of Thorns – The thorns of the crown were likely 1 to 2 inch thorns of briar that were hard as oak. When shoved onto Jesus' head, they likely not only penetrated through the skin, but parts of the skull as well. This would have caused severe bleeding along with great pain.

For He will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. – Luke 18:32

Jesus was Stripped

And they spit on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the robe and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him. – Matthew 27:30-31

They Stripped Him – After mocking Jesus, the Roman soldiers spat on Him and struck Him on the head with the wooden staff. When they stripped the scarlet robe from His back, they would have reopened Jesus' wounds. The severe scourging, with its intense pain and blood loss, most likely left Jesus in a pre-shock state. The physical and mental abuse dealt by the Jews and the Romans, as well as the lack of food, water, and sleep, would also have contributed to His weakened state.

He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter...
– Isaiah 53:7a

Jesus was Sent Out

...And He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. – John 19:17

The Weight of the Cross – Since the weight of the entire cross weighed over 300 pounds, Jesus likely only carried the crossbeam to the crucifixion site. The crossbeam, often weighing up to 100 pounds, was placed across the nape of the prisoner's neck and balanced along both shoulders. This beam would have been rough and splinter-laden to cause even more pain against Jesus' open wounds.

Carrying the Cross – The fact that Jesus struggled to carry His crossbeam and needed help from Simon of Cyrene (Matthew 27:32), was not due to the weight, but because of the punishment He had already endured. He would have lost so much blood by the time He had to carry it that He would have been unable to make it the entire distance (estimated to have been about half a mile).

[The bodies of sacrificial animals were] burned outside of the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. – Hebrews 13:11-12

Jesus was Crucified

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. – Luke 23:33

The Worst Form of Punishment – Crucifixion was a Roman means of execution in which the prisoner was nailed (or tied) to a cross. Although the Romans did not invent crucifixion, they perfected it as a form of torture and capital punishment that was designed to produce a slow death with maximum pain and suffering. It was accepted as the most painful and disgraceful form of capital punishment, more so than decapitation, being thrown to wild animals, or even being burned alive.

He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. – 1 John 2:2

Jesus was Pierced

Pierced Hands – Upon reaching the crucifixion site, Jesus was thrown to the ground and nailed to the crossbeam with His arms outstretched. Because the palms are insufficient for supporting the weight of a man, the nails were actually driven into each wrist (also considered to be part of the hand).

Pierced Feet – Once Jesus was lifted on the cross, His feet were nailed to it. In order to accomplish this, His knees were bent and the feet brought up a bit to allow them to lie flat against the cross so they could be nailed.

The Nails – The nails that pierced Jesus' hands and feet were much like railroad spikes but much longer (approximately 6 to 8 inches). When they were driven through the hands and feet, they were hammered flat on the back side of the wooden beam so that they would keep their impaled victims in place.

But He was pierced for our transgressions... – Isaiah 53:5a

Jesus Agonized

Dislocation – Once suspended, gravity brought the weight of Jesus' body down. His shoulders and elbows would have dislocated by popping out of joint and ripping ligaments.

Dehydration – With the severe loss of blood from the scourging, Jesus would have become dehydrated and His body would have had less blood to carry oxygen.

Suffocation – Because Jesus' arms were outstretched, His chest cavity was in a perpetually expanded state, making it very difficult to breathe. In order to breathe, one had to push up on the nails in his feet to allow the chest enough flexibility to inhale. This maneuver would place the entire weight of the body on the feet.

Heart Failure – During crucifixion, the blood sinks rapidly into the lower extremities of the body. Within 6 to 12 minutes, the blood pressure drops by half, and the heart beats faster in an attempt to compensate. The heart is deprived of blood.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast...they have pierced by hands and feet... – Psalm 22:14, 16b

Jesus Died

...He said, "It is finished," and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit. – John 19:30

His Voluntary Death – Multiple factors contribute to the cause of death during a crucifixion, including shock, dehydration, suffocation, and organ and heart failure. Jesus may have suffered these as a man condemned to death, but in the end, as the Son of God, He voluntarily gave up His spirit to the Lord (John 19:30).

Not One Bone Broken – Sometimes the legs of a crucified victim would be broken to expedite the death (which could last up to 3 days). When they went to break the legs of the crucified, Jesus was already dead. So they did not break His legs, thus fulfilling the scripture: "He keeps all His bones; not one of them is broken" (Psalm 34:20).

Blood and Water – To confirm that Jesus was dead, a soldier pierced Jesus' side with his spear and out came blood and water (John 19:34). The water was likely fluid draining from the tissues lining the lung and heart and would have preceded the flow of blood. Jesus truly died as a fully human being with a genuine human body.

*"...I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord."
– John 10:17b-18a*

Friday (3pm) – The Veil

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split...they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" – Matthew 27:50-51, 54b

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all... – 1 Timothy 2:5-6a

New Covenant Sacrifice – The Perfect Offering

...He saw Jesus coming toward Him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
– John 1:29

Description – God's Son became flesh and came to provide the perfect offering for us, abolishing the need to continue with the Old Covenant sacrifices

Significance – Jesus Christ is now the New Covenant; our one-time, perfect sacrifice, forever atoning for our sins and restoring our fellowship with God

The Cost – The death and resurrection of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ

Christ suffered so that we might be forgiven; reflect on what Jesus' sacrifice means for you personally

Surely He took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered Him punished by God, stricken by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed. – Isaiah 53:4-5

What personal sin is God revealing to you?

Narrow it to a word or phrase, write it on a piece of red cloth, and take it with you to the next area*

Make your way to the cross

"...For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." – Matthew 26:28

Using the hammer and nails provided, nail your sin (red cloth) to the cross*

Spend thoughtful time in prayer

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. – Hebrews 4:16

Recognize Christ for who He is and what He has done for you through His sacrifice on the cross

*Materials referenced are only available on-site as part of the Christ's Final Hours walk-thru experience