



faith 1.0

GOD DIES.

romans 5.8

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

CRUCIFIXION

- The Persians commonly practiced early “crucifixion” under Darius I, circa 518 BC
- In 332 BC, Alexander crucified two thousand people in Tyre, and made the transition from impalement to crosses
- The Romans perfected crucifixion, and mastered the methods of making it more painful

- Two types of crosses were used: the *Tau* (capital T), and the *Latin* (lowercase t)
- The pain of crucifixion was so great, it warranted inventing a word - *excruciating* - to describe it
- Part of the reason for the pain? It is a prolonged death by asphyxiation
- People could hang on the cross anywhere from 3 hours to *9 days*

- It was not uncommon for people to try and slump down to empty their lungs and speed death
- So the Romans added a seat, to prevent that, and lengthen the pain
- This was not done privately
- Often, the dead were left on the crosses to be eaten by animals - vultures and dogs
- As a rule, only men were crucified

- Josephus: *“crucifixion is the most wretched of deaths...”*
- Cicero: *“...decent Roman citizens should not even speak of [crucifixion] as it is too disgraceful for the ears of decent men...”*
- In light of this, how peculiar that the symbol of our redeemer and savior is a cross, of all things

the crucifixion is GOOD NEWS

in the cross, GOD is satisfied

- The cross represents the beginning of a *new covenant*
- Jesus is our *propitiation*, which diverts God's wrath away from us
- Because of the cross, we are *justified*, or declared righteous
- In the cross, the *ransom* was paid for our sins

GOD redeems us through the cross

- We are slaves - 1 Peter 2.19
- We are completely unable to redeem ourselves
- The prototype for our redemption is the Exodus
- God redeemed his people out of a slavery they were powerless to escape from on their own
- When Jesus died, he shed his blood in our place for that exact reason - to redeem us

The cross was something done *by* you.
You murdered God.

The cross was something done *for* you.
God loves you, and died to forgive you.

