

# Passion Week of Prayer and Fasting



By the time Friday comes around, so much has happened. What started with “Hosanna!” has turned into “Crucify!”. The day begins with an early morning decision by the religious leaders to request the death penalty for Jesus. Upon hearing this, Judas expresses his despair to those leaders, who show absolutely no concern for him, and he ends up taking his own life. What a start to a day – one man is condemned to death, and another dies of his own hand. Later that day, the known murderer Barabbas is set free, and several men will be crucified and killed. Truly a day where death seems to reign!

Yet as this day progresses, there are hints that more is going on than meets the eye. There is an invisible under-current of God’s activity revealed in brief glimpses: a dream given to Pilate’s wife, the robe and crown placed on Jesus, the placard above Jesus’ head that He is “King of the Jews”, and the profound confession of faith from a crucified criminal who speaks of Jesus’ Kingdom. In the midst of this “day of death”, God is active, but most people do not notice it. They see only another example of Roman oppression and the death of one more potential Messiah. Even an earthquake, the splitting of the Temple curtain, and dead people coming back to life doesn’t seem enough to restore hope.

But are we very different? I can believe that Jesus’ death and resurrection happened and that I am forgiven and part of God’s forever family, but when a “day of death” comes, it can be hard to believe that God is still at work. Good Friday is both a history-changing event and the power of God reaching into our lives today. The crucified and risen Jesus is present with us, still working in the under-currents of our lives and bringing life and hope.

How can you access His presence and power during those “days of death” that threaten to control your perspective? May we look and see Jesus at work in small and big ways all around us, and in us, and live in hope knowing that He, not death, is King.

## Prayer Points

***We declare that we walk in perfect deliverance, we are no longer slave to sin, sickness, curses, death and Satan. We walk in perfect liberty through Jesus name.***

- **ROMANS 8:2** “because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.”