

THE BOOK OF ACTS

WHO KILLED JESUS?

NOVEMBER 2, 2025

SCRIPTURE

But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead **after you killed Him** by hanging Him on a cross. Then God put Him in the place of honor at His right hands as Prince and Savior. He did this so the people of Israel would repent of their sins and be forgiven. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him." When the religious leaders heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. Acts 5:29-33

A CONSPIRACY & CO-CONSPIRATORS

A conspiracy theory explains an event as a secret, sinister plot by powerful people.

Conspiracy means to "breathe as one" and the death of Christ was just that.

WHO KILLED JESUS?

1/ The religious leaders played a role in killing Jesus.

"The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead **after you** (religious leaders) killed Him by hanging Him on a cross." Acts 5:30

2/ Satan played a role in killing Jesus.

Then **Satan entered Judas**, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. Luke 22:3

3/ Judas played a role in killing Jesus.

And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how **Judas might betray Jesus**. Luke 22:4

A person's public affection for Jesus isn't the whole story.

4/ Herod played a role in killing Jesus.

Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked Him. Dressing Him in an elegant robe, **they sent Him back to Pilate**. Luke 23:11

5/ Pilate played a role in killing Jesus.

So **Pilate delivered Jesus over** to them to be crucified. John 19:16

6/ The Jewish crowd played a role in killing Jesus.

"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. **They all answered, "Crucify Him!"** All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" Matthew 27:22-25

7/ The Roman soldiers played a role in killing Jesus.

When **the soldiers had crucified Him**, they divided up His clothes by casting lots. Matthew 27:35

8/ All people played a role in killing Jesus.

He was pierced for **our transgressions**, He was crushed for **our iniquities**. The Lord has laid on Him **the iniquity of us all**. Isaiah 53:5-6

Jesus was delivered up for **our trespasses**. Romans 4:25

9/ God played a role in killing Jesus.

"Jesus was handed over to you **by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge**." Acts 2:23

It was the Lord's good plan to crush Him and cause Him grief. Yet when His life is made an offering for sin, He will have many descendants. Isaiah 53:10

We must stand against liberal theology that stands against Scripture. For example: "The penal substitution model turns God into a cosmic child abuser—requiring the death of His own Son to satisfy His anger. That is not good news. That is grotesque." T. Jones

He loved us and sent His Son to be the **propitiation for our sins**. 1 John 4:9

Since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, **He will certainly save us from the wrath of God**. Romans 5:9

God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?

Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Hebrews 9:22

The shedding of blood symbolizes sin's severity.

1/ The first bloodshed

In order for someone guilty to live, something innocent must die.

2/ The intermediate bloodshed

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Hebrews 10:4

3/ The final bloodshed

Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins.

But our High Priest, Jesus, offered Himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Hebrews 10:11-12

HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND?

1/ A person has to see their sin and rebellion.

No one is good. Not even one. Romans 3:10

The penalty of sin is eternal death. Romans 6:23

2/ A person has to embrace God's deep love.

God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

3/ A person has to take God's offer of forgiveness.

This means turning from our sin. If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:9

This means turning to your Savior. If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

4/ A person has to embrace Christ's work, not their own.

It is by grace you have been saved, through faith. And this is not from yourselves. It is the gift of God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done. Ephesians 2:8-9

GOD IS CALLING

God calls everyone. And every person will take responsibility for how they respond.

"Our message is not a compromise but an ultimatum." A.W. Tozer

"Whoever comes to Me, I will never drive away." John 6:37

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