

**Holy Boldness vs Unholy Fear**  
**Matthew 27: 57-66**

**March 3, 2024**

**Verse 57 - 58**

**Joseph of Arimathea - The man and Holy  
Boldness**

He was a watchman, waiting for the kingdom of God –  
Luke 23: 51

He was a secret disciple, *but not anymore!* - John 19: 38

He was a man of courage, **HOLY BOLDNESS**; he asked Pilate for the body of Jesus

I do not believe Joseph awakened that morning and had this planned, *but God did!*

LESSON:

Always be ready for a surprise move of God; you never know when God will act and you will be moved to greatness in the eyes of God

**Jesus had to be  
buried in a rich  
man's tomb.  
The Old Testament  
Scriptures said  
so – Isaiah 53: 9**

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Verse 59 - 61

**Joseph and Nicodemus, *with Holy Boldness*,  
prepare the body**

**Remember Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, who came to Jesus at night?**

He tried to flatter Jesus – **John 3: 2**

Jesus will have nothing to do with this tom foolery - **John 3: 3**

Nicodemus and Joseph are risking everything by publicly taking care of Jesus' body – **John 19: 39**

**LESSON:**

***IT WILL COST YOU TO FOLLOW JESUS!***

Verse 62 - 64

**The unholy are fearful**

**The supernatural they witnessed that day gave them cause for concern**

**What they saw was terrifying and supernatural**

**Jesus said many times He would rise again, yet they were gripped with fear!**



**These guys heard what Jesus said and were concerned about what Jesus said**

**The disciples, on the other hand, did not believe what Jesus said!**

**What was the disciple's problem?**

*They spiritualized what Jesus said;  
they did not take it literally*

**LESSON WORLD:**

**When Jesus makes a truth claim,  
*take it literally!***

Verse 65 - 66

**Pilate gives in, why?**

**I believe God moved the heart of Pilate to secure the tomb so the resurrection would be unquestionable**

**What did securing the tomb involve?**

*A huge stone (weighed several tons) was rolled down hill across the entrance*

*A rope was wrapped around the entrance stone and fastened to both sides of the tomb*

*The rope was cemented with a hardening clay or wax-like substance*

*In Jesus' case, a guard was posted*



## CLOSING THOUGHTS:

### CAUTION:

Do not make the mistake the disciples made and spiritualize the Scriptures

If you do, you will walk away with a faulty interpretation

Jesus holds people responsible to know the Scriptures and to watch and be ready –

Luke 19: 43-44

**They did not know the Scriptures and what to expect of Messiah's arrival**

**Zechariah 9: 9-10 -**

**Messiah's first coming was lowly, riding on a donkey**

**Messiah's second coming speaks of a horse and battle bow; He brings peace by establishing His kingdom**

**LESSON:**

**To understand what is coming will require a literal application of Scripture**

**One's hermeneutics, *how the Bible is interpreted*, will affect one's future view:**

**Literal:** This approach seeks out the "*plain meaning*" of the text

**Moral:** This approach is supposed to reveal the ethics behind any text

**Allegorical:** This approach focuses on stories that impart a lesson

**Devotional:** This approach is on proper interpretation and application to one's life

## The Golden Rule of Interpretation:

Biblical passages are to be taken literally, as read, unless the text indicates otherwise

## The Law of Context:

A text apart from context is pretext; a verse can only mean what it means in context

## Our Goal:

*“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth” - 2 Timothy 2: 15*





**THE INTERPRETER  
MAKES THE  
SCRIPTURE SAY  
WHAT HE WANTS IT  
TO SAY.**



**THE INTERPRETER  
MAKES THE  
SCRIPTURE SAY  
WHAT GOD  
HAS TO SAY.**

**Today, God is speaking; allow His Word to penetrate your soul and go deep into your being!**

**This will help us:**

**“I will meditate on Your precepts,  
And contemplate Your ways.  
I will delight myself in your statutes;  
I will not forget Your word.”**

**Psalm 119: 15-16**

Those immersed in the Word, and filled with the Holy Spirit, will have a spring of hope!

**HOLY BOLDNESS** will mark their lives!

Hated by the world *yet loved by God!*

Shunned by the world, *yet stand with  
**HOLY BOLDNESS!!***



*December 14*

*B*etter is one day in Your courts  
than a thousand elsewhere;  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the  
house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.  
For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
the Lord bestows favor and honor;  
no good thing does He withhold  
from those whose walk is blameless.

PSALM 84:10-11 NIV

This is our time . . . . .

***Make this the best of times!***

***Make a difference Brothers and Sisters . . . . .***

***MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!***

***WALK WITH HOLY BOLDNESS!***