

Gospel of John

(19:38; #78) God's Secret Agents

John 19:38-42 **ESV**

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. 39 Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. 40 So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. 42 So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Preserving the Body of Jesus...19:38-42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56

What was the 'normal' disposal of the dead bodies of crucifixion victims?

What are some reasons why this normal 'burial' was not acceptable? **Ps.16:10**

So how does God guard the body of Jesus? **19:38, 42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56**

What do we know about *Joseph of Arimathea*? **19:38; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:43; Lu.23:50-53**

What do we know about *Nicodemus*? **Jn.3:1-21, 7:45-52, 19:38-42**

What common traits do both men share? **Jn.19:38; 3:1-2; 7:45-52**

Additionally, what is recorded of Joseph? **Mark 15:43; Rom.13:7**

What all happens from 3 to 6 (3 hours)? **19:38-42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56**

What do Joseph and Nicodemus provide that strongly suggest expecting crucifixion and death?

And how might these two have known?? **Jn.3:14-15, 7:47-52; Lu.23:50-52; II Tim.3:16-17**

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Preserving the Body of Jesus...19:38-42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56

What was the 'normal' disposal of the dead bodies of crucifixion victims?

The bodies would be 'carried off to some obscure and accursed ditch', or garbage heap...

What are some reasons why this normal 'burial' was not acceptable? **Ps.16:10**

Empty, sealed, guarded tomb verified it was Jesus. Multiple bodies in 'ditch'; Corruption!

So how does God guard the body of Jesus? **19:38, 42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56**

He provided for (2) secret Jewish believers to ask Pilate for the body. It all was rushed...

What do we know about Joseph of Arimathea? **19:38; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:43; Lu.23:50-53**

Secret disciple of Jesus; rich; tomb was new, his; waiting for Kingdom; courageous, took down the body, bought linen/wrapped body, not consented to plan of council; placed stone.

What do we know about Nicodemus? **Jn.3:1-21, 7:45-52, 19:38-42**

A Pharisee, a ruler (council), came to Jesus at night (fear/?), must be born again! Disciple!

What common traits do both men share? **Jn.19:38; 3:1-2; 7:45-52**

Both are members of the Sanhedrin. Yet both fear them, of being banished from temple.

Additionally, what is recorded of Joseph? **Mark 15:43; Rom.13:7**

He 'gathered up courage' and went before Pilate to ask for, beseech, the body. Fear Pilate

What all happens from 3 to 6 (3 hours)? **19:38-42; Mt.27:57-60; Mk.15:42-46; Lu.23:50-56**

Plea to Pilate, take down body, prepare body/spices, wrap in linen strips, lay in/seal tomb.

What do Joseph and Nicodemus provide that strongly suggest expecting crucifixion and death?

Joseph has a new tomb nearby (not @ Arimathea). Nicodemus has 65-100 # spices! ...

And how might these two have known?? **Jn.3:14-15, 7:47-52; Lu.23:50-52; II Tim.3:16-17**

Perhaps God gave them understanding of Jesus' words and predictions. Makes sense??