

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 26, 2008

The One Who Conquered Death
John 19:38-42
Dale Whitehead

Christ's power over death was manifested in three different ways (John 19:30 to John 20:10).

Christ's power over death was first of all manifested in His dying (John 19:30-37).

Christ's power over death was also manifested in His burial (John 19:38-42).

Christ, in controlling the details of His burial, fulfilled two specific prophecies.

The first prophecy that Christ was able to fulfill was that He, according to Isaiah 53:9, would be assigned to a rich man in His death.

The second prophecy that Christ also was able to fulfill was that He, according to Matthew 12:40, would be in the grave exactly three days.

Joseph of Arimathea, according to Matthew 27:57, was a rich man.

Joseph of Arimathea, according to Mark 15:43, was also a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin.

Joseph of Arimathea, according to Luke 23:51, did not support the decision of the Sanhedrin to condemn Jesus.

Joseph of Arimathea, according to John 19:38, was a disciple of Christ.

Joseph of Arimathea, though a disciple of Christ, was, out of fear of the Jews, a secret disciple until Christ's death (John 19:38).

Clearly, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were working together in order to expedite the burial of Christ so that He might be buried before the Sabbath began.

Myrrh was a fragrant, gummy resin, which, in powdered form, was often mixed with aloe, an aromatic powder made from Sandalwood.

After Joseph and Nicodemus had brought the linen and spices, they then prepared Christ's body for burial (John 19:40).

The tomb that was used to bury Christ was the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, according to Matthew 27:60.

When Christ's body was placed in Joseph of Arimathea's tomb on the day of preparation prior to the Sabbath, the prophecies of Isaiah 53:9 and Matthew 12:40 were fulfilled.

May God give us the grace to understand that Christ does in fact have complete mastery over death and though we may die, based on His promise to us, we will live again.