

Kingdom Reclaimed
Matthew 27:45-66
Study Guide**Big Idea: God is working all things for my good.**

1. What does it mean that God is sovereign?

As we consider the concept that God is working all things for good. Do you believe that? Why or why not? Discuss.

2. Read the following passages, and discuss the concept of God sovereignty working behind the scenes to orchestrate His divine purposes:

a. The Sovereign Death of Christ (v. 45-50)

(Jesus is forsaken of God (Psalm 22:1); mocked and then yields up his spirit (John 10:18). Why did God forsake Him? What was God accomplishing?)

b. The Commentary of God (v. 51-53)

(The curtain is torn, the earth shakes and the dead come out of their graves. What was God saying in all this? Discuss.)

c. The Responses of People (v. 54-56)

(From the centurion, to the Jewish crowd (Luke 23:48), to the loyal women, everyone had to respond in some way to what had happened that day. Imagine what it would have been like for you to be there that day. Discuss.)

d. The Sovereign Burial of Christ (v. 57-61)

(How was God sovereignly at work in the burial of Christ? See also Isaiah 53:9 as a prophecy. Discuss.)

e. The Sovereign Proof of the Deity of Christ (v. 62-66)

(How did the actions of the Council actually confirm the deity of Christ? Discuss.)

Application

How has God worked all things for good in your past? How might He be working all things for good in your life right now? Take some time to quietly pray and surrender circumstances and outcomes to God.

Message Slides

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A. The Sovereign Death of Christ (v. 45-50)

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” ⁴⁸And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” ⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

B. The Commentary of God (v. 51-53)

⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

C. The Responses of People (v. 54-56)

⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!” ⁵⁵There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, ⁵⁶among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

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1. Centurion
2. Jewish crowd
3. Many Loyal women

D. The Sovereign Burial of Christ (v. 57-61)

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

E. The Sovereign Proof of the Deity of Christ (v. 62-66)

⁶²The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.



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