The Heart of the Gospel Revisited

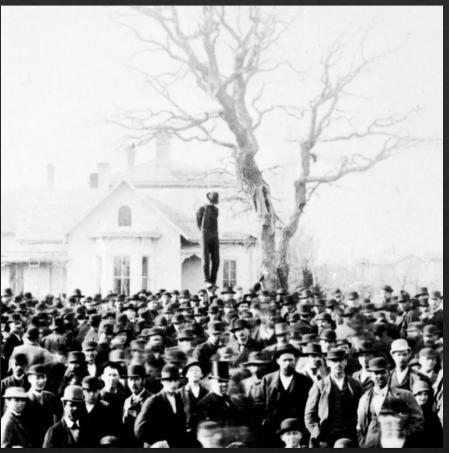
Rev. Josh Spoelstra PhD House of Judah – 6/6/2021 Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!"

A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."

But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed.

(Luke 23:20-23 NRSV)





Peter's Social Location

- * '...Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him...[was] handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, [whom] you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.' (Acts 2:22-23 NRSV)
- ♦ 'Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' (Acts 2:36 NRSV; also Acts 4:10)
- ♦ Jesus was killed or put to death **by hanging him on a tree** (see Acts 5:30; 10:39 13:29; cf. Deuteronomy 21:22-23)

Paul's Social Location

- ♦ Jesus was not executed via stoning, the typical capital punishment for egregious sins such as blasphemy (e.g. Leviticus 24:14); instead, Jesus died by the Roman execution method via piecing (~ Zechariah 12; Psalm 22; Isaiah 53)
- ♦ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" ...so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. (Galatians 3:13-14 NRSV)





I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

(Galatians 2:19b-20 NRSV)