

**Matthew 27:50-53**

*And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.*

**!!! GOD IS DEAD !!!**

Today is Good Friday, and if you think about it, if the crucifixion were to happen today, 2,000 years later, that (**!!! GOD IS DEAD !!!**) would very well be what the headlines would read as you pick up a newspaper or if you scroll through your phone, tablet, or computer.

So, the news article may go something like this.

*Homeless man who walked around our city and neighboring towns died today. This man was known to many as Jesus of Nazareth, and He died due to severe beatings and being nailed to a cross for more than six hours. Witnesses say, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' "*

*But even though that was not a good enough reason for the beatings and horrible death, still this poor homeless man died anyway.*

*Other witnesses said they heard Him say different things while He hung on that cross, such as,*

*"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."*

*"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."*

*"Woman, behold your son!"*

*"Behold your mother!"*

*"I thirst!"*

*"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

*"It is finished!"*

*"Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' "*

*Many agree that after He had died that "the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many."*

*This poor homeless man had claimed to be the Son of God Himself, and if He died, then God must be dead also.*

But that's not the end of the story, because three days later the headlines would read.

**!!! GOD IS MISSING, HAVE YOU SEEN HIM? !!!**

*Three days ago we reported of a poor homeless man known by many as Jesus of Nazareth, who had died a horrible death by being nailed to a tree. Now three days later He is no longer in the tomb where He was laid to rest.*

*Some say that His close friends had stolen Him away.*

*Some say that He was not really dead and that He rolled this two-ton rock away from the opening of His grave and walked out in the middle of the night while the guards were sleeping.*

*A third account from some of the local women who were friends of this poor homeless man, said that they saw Him and that "He had risen from the dead!"*

*This reporter will keep an open mind and wants to know the truth for himself.*

*If you have any information, please contact me immediately.*

There are many stories of what really happened to Jesus, but if you want the truth on this Good Friday, then you'll have to read it for yourself in the bible, in the book of Matthew chapter 28, Mark chapter 16, Luke chapter 24, and John chapters 20 & 21.

- † **John 20:29** *Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*
- † **John 20:31** *but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*
- † **John 21:24-25** *This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.*