

**Who Killed Jesus?  
Luke 23:32-35**

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1. There has been a great deal of controversy about the movie + “The Passion of the Christ.” The controversy has been regarding the violence and the accusations made that it is anti-Semitic.
2. Have you ever stopped to consider who killed Jesus? Who are “they” in our text?
3. This morning I want to address one of these accusations. Who Killed Jesus?

**I. The Jews Sentenced Jesus To Death. (Matthew 27:22-26)**

- A. I realize that this is not a politically-correct thing to say.
- B. An explanation for the death of Jesus was given by two disciples who traveled with Jesus on the road to Emmaus. **(Luke 24:20; Acts 2:36)**
- C. Why did the Jews want Jesus to die?
  1. Their greatest charge against Jesus was blasphemy. **(John 10:31-33)**

**II. The Romans Killed Jesus. (John 19:17-22)**

- A. Perhaps the Romans are the most obvious answer to this question.
- B. Why did the Romans want Jesus to die?
  1. So the Jews trumped up the charge of treason against Rome. **(Luke 23:2-3)**

**III. Satan Participated In Jesus’ Death. (Genesis 3:14-15)**

- A. In a direct sense, Satan Himself was involved in the plot to kill Jesus.
  1. God foretold that Satan would make the Messiah suffer. **(Hebrews 2:14-15)**
- B. Why did Satan want Jesus to die?
  1. Simply because of jealousy and hatred.

**IV. God the Father Sent Jesus Into The World. (Isaiah 53:10-11; Acts 2:23)**

- A. God sent His Son Jesus into the world.
  1. God had in His heart a bigger picture in mind than simply the death of His innocent Son. **(Romans 4:25; Acts 2:23)**
- B. Why did God the Father want Jesus to die?
  1. To justify us with His righteousness. **(2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 8:32)**

**V. Jesus Offered Himself On The Cross. (John 10:14-18; Mark 10:45)**

- A. Jesus spoke openly about his own sacrifice.
- B. Why did Jesus want to die?
  1. Because He loves us. **(Ephesians 5:2)**

**VI. We Contributed To The Death Of Jesus. (Genesis 3:1-7; Romans 5:12)**

- A. Even though Adam was responsible for the first sin, in a sense so are we.
  1. This sinfulness prevents any of us from being accepted by God.
- B. Our sins were responsible for putting Christ on the cross. **(1 Peter 3:18)**