

“WORD OF LIFE”

March 14, 2021

IN HIS DEATH

3 - Giving **His Physical Body** for the Believers That They May **Become Members of His Mystical Body**

Luke 22:19 - “Having taken a **loaf**, when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, **This is My body** which is given for you.”

This **loaf** is a symbol signifying -

- Christ’s **physical body**. The words, “**for you**” indicate that the body here denotes Christ’s physical body. His physical body **is for us**.
 - broken for us on the cross
 - to accomplish **redemption** for us
 - to release His life that we may participate in it.

By **participating** in this life, we become -

- the **mystical Body** of Christ (Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 12:27), **is for Him**.
 - absolutely related to God’s administration

Matt. 27:45 - “From the **sixth** hour darkness came over all the land until the **ninth** hour.”

The Lord Jesus was on the cross for six hours, from nine o’clock in the morning until three o’clock in the afternoon. The sixth hour is our twelve noon, and the ninth hour is our three o’clock in the afternoon. The Lord’s giving of Himself, took six hours.

- Before His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus made the long journey from Galilee to Jerusalem for the purpose of
 - **presenting** Himself to God
 - **giving** Himself was **for us**.
- The Lord Jesus to pass through **man’s cruel treatment** (in the first three hours on the cross).
 - He was **persecuted** by both the Jews and the Romans (by men) **for** doing God’s will.
 - the Jews mocked Him,
 - the soldiers robbed Him of His garments

We need to be impressed that Christ’s giving Himself for us involves hard work carried out through a long process of suffering. If the Jews and the Romans had not persecuted Him, He could not have been crucified. All that they did to Him was part of the process through which the Lord Jesus gave Himself for us.

- After the Lord Jesus was persecuted by men, **He was judged by God** (in the last three hours).
 - He was **judged** by God **for** the accomplishment of our redemption.
 - God counted Him as our suffering **Substitute** for sin (Isa. 53:10).
 - God put all our sins, iniquities, and transgressions upon the Lord Jesus.

Hence, darkness came over all the land because our sin and sins and all negative things were being dealt with.

- **Man** did his part by **putting** the Lord Jesus on the cross and persecuting Him.
- Then **God** came in to do His part by **putting** all our sins, iniquities, and transgressions upon the Lord Jesus and judging Him as our Substitute for our redemption.

Christ’s giving Himself for us was not a simple matter that happened quickly. In order for Christ to complete His giving of Himself for us, it was necessary for man to do his part and for God to do His part. On the cross the Lord passed through the process to give Himself for us **individually** as believers and **corporately** as the church and **in particular** to **give His physical body for us so that we may become members of His mystical Body**.

*(The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 70, point 3)
[This “word of life” was inspired by The Elder’s Training Book 8, Ch. 4]*