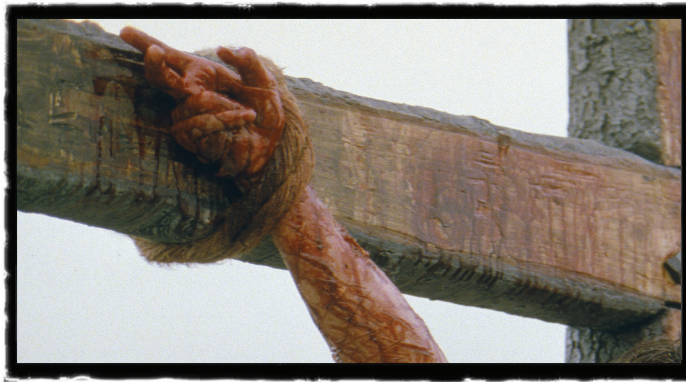


T H E P A S S I O N

HE WENT TO **THE END** SO YOU COULD MAKE



A **BEGINNING.**

Why did he do it? Jesus, the Son of God. Why would he leave heaven to endure the torture, pain, humiliation of the cross?

Jesus said he came only to do the will of the Father. He came in the Father's name, for the Father's glory, doing all things by the Father, speaking only what the Father told him to speak. And that got him into trouble—with people.

His words and miracles greatly upset some people. So Jesus paid the price. He was sentenced to die by crucifixion. But ultimately it was not the Romans and Jews controlling Jesus' death. They were not making the ultimate decisions. Jesus was never fully at their mercy.

This was Jesus, who healed the blind, even raised people back to life! One was his friend, Lazarus, who had been buried in a tomb for four days! Following that one, the authorities said, "If we let him go on like this, the whole world will be following him." Indeed.

Jesus voluntarily gave up his life.

Why??

For us. To step in and take our place. To pay the harsh punishment for our sins. Again, why? Because our sin was keeping us from him. He was willing to do this, to remove the barrier—to offer us forgiveness.

"God demonstrates his own love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us," the Bible tells us.

What this means is that you can make a new beginning with God. He did this for you, but his forgiveness is not yours until a relationship with God himself belongs to you. And he is offering you that. Look at Jesus' passion. Is there any question how much he wants you to know him?

If you have questions about how to begin a relationship with God, please see Everystudent.com.

EveryStudent.com