

Jesus' Final Hours

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Chapter 21**.

❖ In order to enter into his glory, Jesus had to suffer and die. His obedience and love brought humankind back to God. Jesus offered himself to the Father as the perfect sacrifice in order to win for us forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

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❖ We use the word *passion* for Jesus' powerful expression of love for us from the Last Supper through his Death.

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❖ While suffering is a mystery, we must learn to trust in the Father's love and accept suffering as Jesus did. Then our suffering has meaning.

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❖ Jesus was betrayed by his apostle Judas Iscariot, who brought the Roman soldiers to Jesus and pointed him out. After talking to him, the Roman governor Pontius Pilate found Jesus to be innocent. He offered to release Jesus to the crowds, but the people demanded that Barabbas be released instead. Pontius Pilate sentenced Jesus to death on the charge that he claimed to be the king of the Jews, who were really ruled by Rome and by King Herod.

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❖ Jesus was crucified and suffered for a long time on the Cross. He died at 3:00 P.M. on a Friday, which is why we remember Good Friday. Mary was present with Jesus when he died. A disciple named John and some other women were also present.

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❖ At death, the moment you see your hidden self and realize how you fit or do not fit into the Kingdom of God is called the particular judgment.

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❖ Heaven is the goal of our lives. It is seeing God face to face and living eternally in his boundless joy.

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❖ Purgatory is the name for the purification we undergo after death during which our remaining selfishness is removed. Then we can enter heaven.

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❖ Those who have refused in serious ways to follow God's command to love are separated from God for eternity. This eternal separation is called hell.

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❖ Jesus' Second Coming, or Parousia, will come at the end of time, when Jesus returns in glory to judge the living and the dead. The eternal destiny of the human race and of every person will be revealed in the Last Judgment.

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