



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage: Matthew 27:55-66
Title: God's Sovereignty in the Chaos
Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 10/24/2021

Discussion Starter – Why might people think that God is not sovereign in times of chaos? How do you view God's sovereignty? How do you explain it to those who question it?

God's Sovereignty Amidst the Chaos of Jesus' Death and Burial (Matthew 27:55-66)

- Why is pondering God's sovereignty essential to our spiritual health?
- Who was Joseph of Arimathea? What do we know about him collectively from reading the three other gospel accounts? (John 19:31-42, Mark 15:42-47, and Luke 23:50-56)
- How did God sovereignly use Joseph of Arimathea? What did Joseph of Arimathea know that allowed him to take this huge risk? What risks have you been willing to take to proclaim your faith in Jesus Christ?
- Read Matthew 10:32-34. What is Jesus teaching here?
- Why is it important for us now as Christians to stand publicly for Jesus Christ? What are some of the areas of your life where you now sense God is prompting you to stand publicly for Jesus? What areas of your life do you find it is more difficult for you to stand for Christ?
- Sometimes God shows us His sovereignty through astounding miracles and other times He uses natural means. What are some of the differences you see between the miracles God performs and the natural means that God uses to show us His sovereignty?
- What are some of the warnings we see about miracles in the days we live in today? Read Matthew 24:24. How do we discern if a miracle is from God or not?
- Jesus' disciples must have felt that their world was falling apart seeing that Jesus had been crucified and killed. How does looking back at God's providence and control in this event help you to deal with what is going on in our world today?
- How do you see God's sovereignty and God's will being manifested in your life today? How do we deal with prodigal children and unsaved family and friends?
- Who are some of the bible characters that you reflect on that demonstrate a trust in the sovereignty of God? Why do you think this reflection important?
- What is a byproduct of trusting in God's sovereignty? Read Isaiah 26:3. What additional insights do you gain from this verse?