

Pastor Roy's Sermon on Matthew 27:51-66 **(June 3, 2026)**

—Below are questions from that lesson to further our understanding—

1. How does understanding that God was sovereignly orchestrating the crucifixion change your perspective on human responsibility and divine purpose in the events leading to Jesus' death?
2. What significance does the tearing of the temple curtain hold for your personal relationship with God, and how does it challenge religious rituals in favor of direct access to Him?
3. The earthquake and opening of tombs were supernatural signs accompanying Jesus' death. What do these cosmic responses reveal about the magnitude of what occurred at the cross?
4. Why do you think the Roman centurion's confession of faith came at the moment of Jesus' death rather than during His miracles or teachings?
5. The women remained at the cross while most of the male disciples fled. What does their faithfulness teach us about courage and devotion in times of crisis?
6. Joseph of Arimathea risked his reputation and position to ask for Jesus' body. When have you been called to demonstrate bold faith that could cost you socially or professionally?
7. How does Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah being buried with the wicked yet in a rich man's tomb demonstrate the precision of God's prophetic word?
8. The religious leaders remembered Jesus' promise to rise on the third day and took precautions against it. What does their response reveal about the difference between intellectual knowledge and saving faith?
9. Pilate told the religious leaders to make the tomb as secure as you can. How does human effort to thwart God's purposes ultimately serve to magnify His power and sovereignty?
10. Considering that the graves opened but the saints appeared only after Jesus' resurrection, what does this teach us about Christ as the first fruits and our future resurrection hope.