**The Hour Has Come!**

**Mark 15:21-39**

God is a God of order, precision and timeliness.

* He does everything according to His **divine plan** that was conceived in His mind before creation.
* He moves history along by His **providential will** and **sovereign power**. He IS IN **TOTAL CONTROL**!
* Afterall, History is **HIS STORY**.
* All of God’s actions occur based upon **His schedule**—His Divine Clock.
* He is never ahead of time. And He is never late!

Why this hour was, and is, the most important hour in the history of the world.

1. This hour fulfilled the most important prophecies found in Scripture!

2. This hour opened the doorway to heaven!

3. This hour both satisfied the justice of God and appeased His wrath!

4. This hour resulted in the redemption of mankind!

5. This hour made it possible for any man to come into the very presence of God and have peace with Him.

Important prophecies from the OT:

* **Genesis 3:15**, which is known as the *proto euangelion*, or the first gospel, we find the very first mention of the gospel in the Bible.

1. In Genesis 3:15 we see exactly how God judged Satan. “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”
2. A view of the cross:
3. Who is the **Seed of the woman**? **Jesus**. Jesus’ lineage can be traced all the way back to Eve. There is also a veiled reference to the **virgin birth** in this verse.

**Galatians 4:4** says, “But when **the time had fully come**, God sent his Son, born of a woman…” Notice the man is absent. This **IS** the virgin birth.

**Isaiah 7:14** says,“Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The **virgin** will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

1. God told the Serpent, “And you will strike his heel.” When did this happen? It happened when Jesus was crucified and those heavy, wrought-iron nails were driven through his wrists and **heel bones**. It was a bruising blow, but it was NOT a fatal blow because three days later Jesus arose from the grave.

**Colossians 3:15** says, “And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing over them by the cross**!”

* Other prophecies:

1. Psalm 22:18 points to Mark 15:24
2. Isaiah 53:12 points to Mark 15:27
3. Psalm 22:6-8 points to Mark 15:29-32
4. Psalm 22:16 points to Mark 15:24
5. Amos 8:9 points to Mark 15:33

**2 Corinthians 5:21** “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

* In **Psalm 22:1**, David cries out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me.
* **Isaiah 53:6** says, “And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all!”
* **Mark 15:37** says, “With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.” This final cry was no doubt the cry recorded for us in John 19:30, when Jesus said, “**It is finished**.”

Religion says, “Do!” Jesus says, “Done!”