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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the New Testament section, on page 41-42.

Christ's Most Painful Moment:

Matthew 27:46, NIV84 -⁴⁶ *About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"*

1. It was a moment of Separation.

"God is not where sin is and at that moment, Jesus was not with God."

2. It was a moment of Substitution.

"God said these words so you won't have to."

3. It was a moment of Demonstration.

"To see what Jesus Christ thinks of you, look not at your circumstances; look to the cross."

4. It was a moment of Invitation.

Romans 8:31–32, NASB -³¹ *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?* ³² *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*

John 3:16, NASB95 -¹⁶ *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

What is the Simple Meaning of the Cross ?

To understand the death and burial of Jesus, we must understand the Passover.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. – 1 Cor. 5:7, NIV

1. The blood of the Lamb was sufficient.

Exodus 12:3–5, NIV84 -³ *Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household.* ⁵ *The animals you choose must be...without defect...*

Revelation 1:5, NASB95 -⁵ *and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood...*

2. The blood of the Lamb is efficient—*but only when applied*.

Exodus 12:22, NIV84 -²² *Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it into the blood in the basin and put some of the blood on the top and on both sides of the doorframe... [Cf., Ex. 12:13, ...when I see the blood, I will pass over you.]*

1 John 1:7, NIV -⁷ *...and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.*

3. The blood of the Lamb was their **ONLY** source of rescue.

1 Peter 1:18–19, NIV -¹⁸ *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,* ¹⁹ *but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.*



What is the Simple Meaning of the Cross ?

We can be redeemed* (the complete forgiveness of all our sins) only through Jesus—our Passover Lamb—Who's blood is sufficient but not efficient, unless applied. [*be saved; be set free; be right with God]

1 Peter 3:18, NLT -¹⁸ *Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but He died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death on the cross, but He was raised to life in the Spirit.*