


ISSUE

18

**Word** on: the street  
magazine

A Street Level Ministries Publication • SPRING 2004



## Does Disbelief in God Make God not exist?

**If I don't believe George W. Bush exists, does that mean he is a myth or a fairytale?**

We shouldn't throw logic out the door when it comes to the subject of God.

The historical evidence speaks otherwise.

## “The Chair”

*a cake-walk compared to  
the Roman execution  
known as **CRUCIFIXION!***

**Crucifixion was designed to:**

- ...Cause severe pain.*
- ...Shame the criminal publicly.*
- ...Be slow and agonizing.*
- ...Kill without question.*
- ...Be a lesson to all those viewing.*

"And He, bearing His cross,  
Went out to a place called the place  
of the skull, which is called in Hebrew,

**GOLGOTHA,**

Where they crucified Him, and two  
others with Him, one on either side,  
and Jesus in the center."



John 19:17,18

John 19:

John 19:17,18

John 19:17,18

John 19:17,18

John 19:17,18

John 19:17,18

John 19:17,18

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magazine

is a quarterly publication of  
Street Level Ministries,  
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# Is God Dead?

## **B**een Thinking About: The Day God Died

On April 8, 1966, the cover of *Time* magazine asked in bold black letters, "Is God Dead?" The lead story described the work of several theologians who no longer held to traditional concepts of God. They were alike in concluding that the God of our fathers had not survived the

## **The Bible also talks about the death of God.**

The God of the Bible was so deeply moved by the harm people do to one another that He actually *died* because of it. At a moment in time, the eternal God closed his eyes and stopped breathing. Under the weight of wrongs that had hurt those who were dear to Him, His body fell limp

According to the Bible, our Creator endured such an agonizing death not only to show us that He is alive, but that He loves us.

## **What the death of God tells us about ourselves.**

Those of us who are inclined to think of ourselves as victims, rather than offenders, might conclude that Chris[t]'s death probably says more

On April 8, 1966, the cover of *Time* magazine asked in bold black letters, "Is God Dead?"

dawn of evolution and birth control.

The debate that followed wasn't as much about God as it was about us. We were in the middle of a turbulent decade. Our world was changing. An unpopular war in Vietnam was prompting bumper stickers that said, "Question Authority." Science and technology were improving our lives and making us less aware of our need for a supernatural God.

## **Other reasons to believe God is dead.**

Challenges to the traditional view of God multiplied in the decades that followed. Not all were secular. Consumer

fraud in religious broadcasting subjected the God of the Bible to public ridicule. Promises of "blessings for dollars" associated the name of Christ with "get rich quick" or "get thin fast" scams. Most recently, evidence of clergy abuse surfaced in the public media. With these reports came stories of victims, who, because of their abuse, no longer considered the God of the church a live option. Those enlightened by science or disillusioned by religious leaders, however, are not the only ones talking about the death of God.

and lifeless. At that moment God was dead—not just in the perception of others, but in a real time and an actual place.

In making this claim, the Bible goes far beyond the cover and pages of *Time* magazine. Instead of asking, "Is God Dead?" the theology of the Bible leaves us with a mystery that is beyond human comprehension (1 Timothy 3:16).

about the evil of others than about ourselves. We can always point to someone we think gave us an excuse to respond in an unloving way. We get a different picture, however, when we look more closely into the suffering of Christ. If the Bible is right, He didn't just die for someone else's sins. He died *for us* (Romans 5:8; John 3:16). The pain He endured says volumes

## **The Bible talks about the death of God**

The second Person of a three-in-one God became a real man to die a real death for us (Philippians 2:5-12; John 1:1-3,14).

As this unparalleled drama unfolds, physical death was not our God's greatest sacrifice. Even before breathing his final breath on a Roman cross He endured the hellish darkness of spiritual separation from His Father in Heaven. As the skies darkened in the middle of the day, His anguished cry echoed through the halls of heaven and history: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46).

about the extreme nature of our *own* need (Romans 3:10-20). Anyone who wants to be included in Christ's death must admit that, in God's eyes, our *own* wrongs rise to the level of those who violate federal law with capital offenses. The extent of His sacrifice says that without His intervention *we* would still be condemned lawbreakers, without hope waiting on "death row" for what the Bible calls "the second death" (Revelation 20:14; Romans 6:23).

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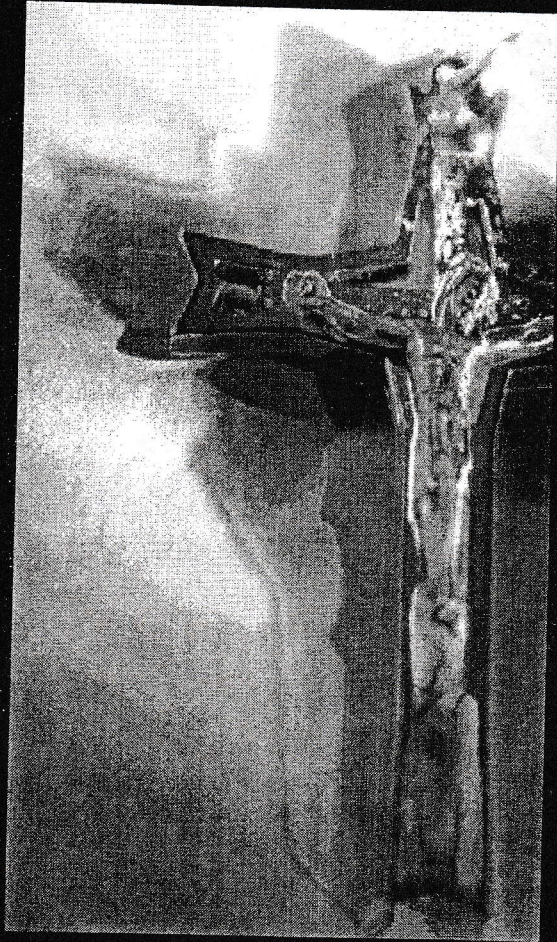
## How the death of God can help us find a new life.

The Scriptures offer no hope to those who refuse to believe Christ suffered for them. The Bible offers a whole new life, however, to those who believe that Christ lived and died as their substitute. Like persons who enter a witness protection program, those who find refuge in Christ take on a new identity. Their troubled past is hidden in Him (Colossians 3:3). They assume His name. They receive His Spirit, and become temples of the living God (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Those who allow the Spirit of Christ to be seen in them are an antidote to the opinion that "God is Dead." Their happiness and tears become a quiet showcase for the love, and joy, and peace of a God who is alive and reaching out to others through His people. No one does this perfectly. But few things are needed more than imperfect, troubled, grateful people who are growing in their willingness to let Christ live His life through them (Romans 8:11). How can we come to that surrender? We can begin by watching Jesus our Lord move through the Garden of Gethsemane to the center page of human history. On the way He groans, "Nevertheless, not my will but Yours be done." Then in the middle of a howling mob, on a hill outside of the walls of Jerusalem, He willingly endured the eternal weight of our sin and death—for us.

*Father in Heaven, we don't want to ever stop thanking you for the price you paid for us. Yet we are so easily distracted. Please help us this day to renew our gratitude for Your Son's death. Please use the surrender of this moment to let His life, and Yours, be seen in us today.*

**"Been Thinking About" is a monthly article by RBC Ministries President Mart De Haan.**



# WHAT'S THE GOOD WORD?

[ā stūdeņt pōll]



Morgan Schifere

"I would rather see someone suffer in life, but if there was any, it would be the mass murder of multiple people."



Mike Schaefer

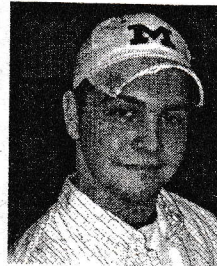
"Murder, because if you're willing to take someone else's life, you're willing to take your own."

## Q: If any, what crimes should be punishable by death, and why?



Kim Monaghan

"It would be punishable by death if someone felt absolutely no remorse for their crimes of murder."



Dustin Wayne

"The crimes would be murder and rape because they're wrong."



Priscilla Williams

"Anything that could be considered a heinous crime, for example rape or child molestation accompanied by murder."



Alex Harris

"I would say murder or rape because it seems like these are the absolute worst crimes."

**A:**

Have you ever had a jealous, hateful, or spiteful thought toward someone else, maybe even a friend? Have you ever looked at a girl or a guy, (possibly somebody else's girlfriend, boyfriend, wife or husband), and wished you could sleep with them? Did you ever catch yourself wanting something so badly that it consumed your thoughts? The fact is that we have all been guilty of the above examples. This makes us guilty of murder, rape and theft. Seem extreme? Read on.

When we think of crime, we picture a mug shot of some kidnapper on the five o'clock news, or a teenage hoodlum with a pistol robbing gas stations. "I would never do that!" you may say, but the Bible tells us that our thoughts alone, and the results of these thoughts, are astronomically evil. Jesus made it a point when he taught to explain this concept to us.

"You have heard that the law of Moses says 'Do not murder'. If you commit murder you are subject to judgment. But I say, if you are angry with someone you are subject to judgment. If you say to your friend, 'You idiot', you are in danger of being brought before the court... You have heard the law of Moses say 'Do not commit adultery'. But I say anyone who even looks at a woman/(man) with lust in his/(her) eye has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28)\*

This proves our guilt; what penalty do we deserve for these crimes?  
"For the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23)

**Temptation comes from the lure of our own evil desires. These evil desires lead to evil actions, and evil actions lead to death. James 1:14-15**

The penalty of our sins is a death sentence which we deserve for turning our backs on God and living only to please ourselves. Everyone dies, and eternity in hell and separation from the love of God could be our final death penalty, but it doesn't have to be. We have been freed from the penalty of death by one person and one person only. Let's read the rest of the above verse.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Jesus was innocent, but in perfect love, he chose to serve the death penalty in our place so we all could have an opportunity to choose eternal life.

"From prison and trial they led him away to his death, but who among the people realized that he was dying for their sins--that he was suffering their punishment? He had done no wrong, and he never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal..." (Isaiah 53: 8-9)

God's love is a gift-love, and this gift fills the depths of need felt in the lives of every person. God made this love and this gift available to us by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The death penalty doesn't have to be the end. Through the sacrificial death of Jesus, our sins were paid for, and when he rose from the dead, we were given the promise that we can live eternally with him in heaven.

"Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised as he was. Our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also share his new life. We are sure of this because Christ rose from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. He died once to defeat sin, and now he lives for the glory of God." (Romans 6:5-10)

Death was swallowed up in victory in Jesus. By accepting Jesus into your heart, you can choose this free payment for the death penalty and begin a new life!

\*All Bible verses are taken from the New Living Translation.

**GATHERING**  
-street level campus rendezvous

*"Where two  
or more are  
gathered  
together in  
My name,  
I am there  
in their  
midst."*

**MATTHEW 18:20**

**STREETLEVEL  
ON-CAMPUS  
BIBLE STUDY**

**Monday Nights  
7:00pm**

**IN:**

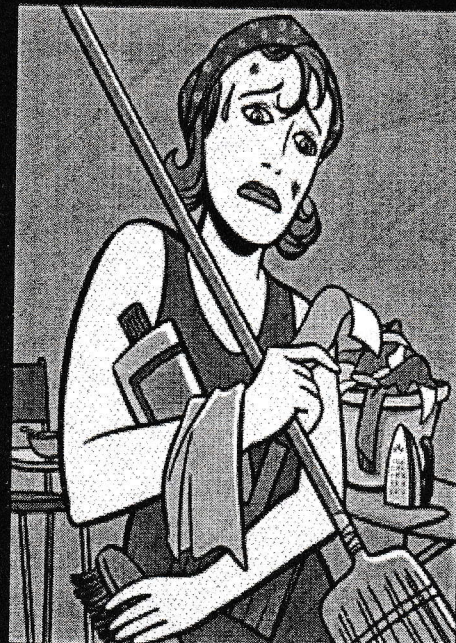
**The Northwoods Room  
Memorial Student Center  
UW-STOUT**

## ARE YOU CLEAN?

America is getting cleaner and cleaner by the hour. You can now sanitize yourself with wipes, gels, sprays, and lotions. You can bleach your teeth, your hair and even your skin. We have enough cleaners at our disposal that we practically never have to come in contact with germs or dirt again. When did this happen, you ask? I'm not exactly sure. It's like one day I woke up and was surrounded by cleansers. It makes me wonder, "Are there really more germs or are we just more aware of them, afraid of them, and disgusted by them?" It's as if we are trying to sterilize our lives from the outside. Why is it that whenever I come in contact with another person or product I instinctively think, "Should I use sanitizer?" "Did they have a cold? Or germs? Uhhhh..."

Then I started thinking, "Am I as clean on the inside as I am on the outside?" "Is my mind full of germs and bacteria?" "Do I sanitize my thoughts like I do my hands?"

"...No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can remove it. I can make you as clean as freshly fallen snow..." Isaiah 1:18



www.gettyimages.com

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Question:

**What does the Bible mean when it speaks of Jesus being the "Son of God"?**

### Answer:

First of all, it is important to understand that the One who was born of Mary existed in heaven as the Son of God from eternity past; He did not become the Son of God by virtue of becoming a human being or by being an offspring or a creation of God. **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son"** (John 3:16). He was already the Son when God sent Him down into this world. The one we know as Jesus was with God and was God from eternity, from before the beginning of time (John 1:1). In fact, the Bible tells us that "All things were made by Him" (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2).

But let us return to the question of why Jesus is called "the Son of God"? The expression "son of" is used in everyday speech as a metaphor and does not

necessarily imply a physical relationship. For example, in the Bible, the disciples James and John were known as "the sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17); wicked men were sometimes called "sons of Belial" (Judges 19:22; 1 Samuel 2:12; etc.); and the inhabitants of Jerusalem were called "precious sons of Zion" (Lamentations 4:2). **The term "Son" as applied to the Lord Jesus Christ implies the intense, eternal love that bound Him and His Father together** (John 1:18; 5:20; 15:9; 17:23,24,26) it also implies the likeness, unity and harmony that have always existed and always will exist between the Father and the Son (as well as with the Holy Spirit)—a unity of attributes, abilities, thought, purpose, and action.

\*This is an excerpt from *Answers to Questions by Muslims about the Bible*. Christian Literature, 706 Hilton Ave., Baltimore, MD 21228-5820

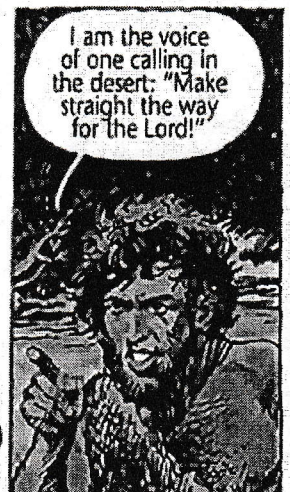
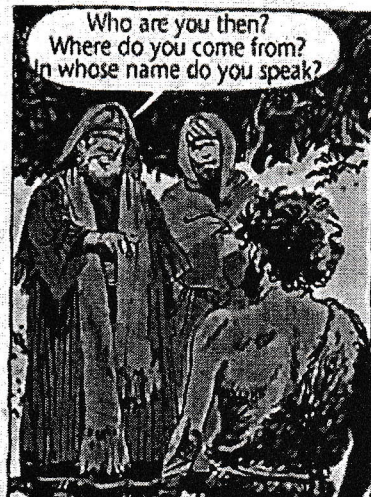
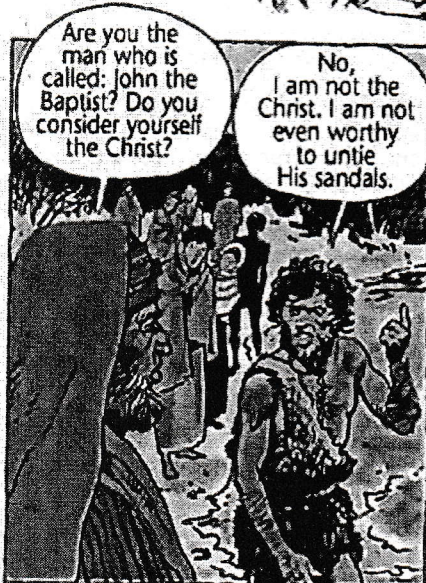


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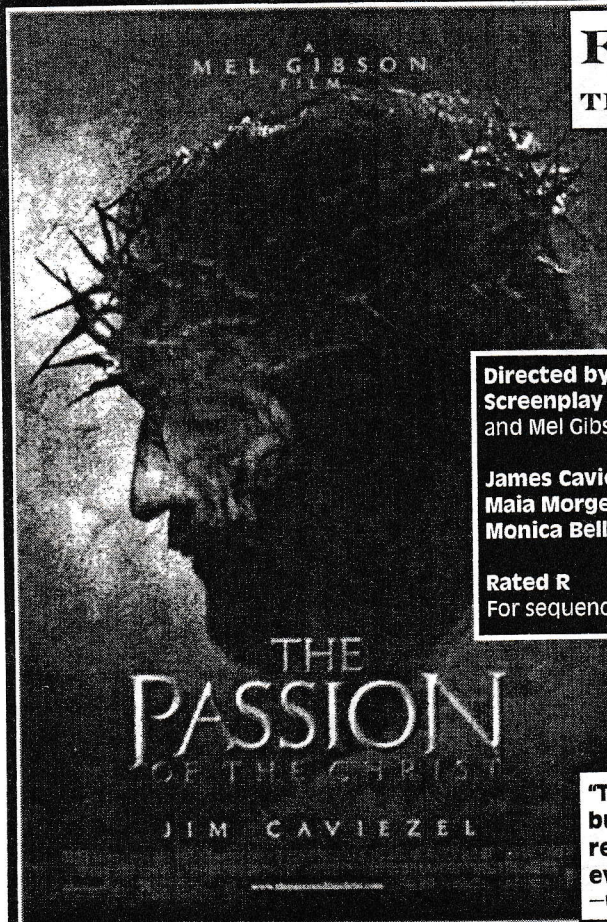
BASED ON THE TRUE STORY

# The God:Man

## Dying for Life



More on page 18...



# FLICK GLIMPSE:

## THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST

hangings portray. I thought for certain that it would stray from the original text of the Bible to make it palatable for everyone.

What I saw, though, is a lot different. It is definitely not what you (or any critics) would call a "family movie." The whole movie is a portrayal of an execution. In a word, it is brutal. Just when you think it's over and that you get the point, there is more, and then even more. Some people have cringed after seeing it, saying it is too graphic, too gory, too over the top. I say, "Yes, it is and life is R rated." In reality crucifixion was the worst form of torture the Romans could come up with, and that's exactly why they used it.

**Directed by:** Mel Gibson  
**Screenplay by:** Benedict Fitzgerald and Mel Gibson  
**James Caviezel** .... Jesus Christ  
**Maia Morgenstern** .... Mary  
**Monica Bellucci** .... Mary Magdalene  
**Rated R**  
 For sequences of graphic violence

The movie is also very un-Hollywood. I kept finding myself looking for the big drama scene of overacting or the crazy, unexpected twist that is at the end of every movie these days. I had to keep reminding myself that

**"The Passion" (taken from the Latin for suffering, but also meaning a profound and transcendent love) refers to the agonizing and ultimately redemptive events in the final 12 hours of Jesus Christ's life**  
 —www.thepassionofthechrist.com

picture above: Copyright 2003 Icon Distribution, Inc

**T**he Passion of the Christ by director Mel Gibson is definitely this year's most talked about film and it just may be the most controversial of the century. There has been a constant buzz in the air about this film ever since it first began. It's hard to find someone who doesn't have an opinion about the Passion. Either they say it's anti-Semitic or anti-Roman or they say it's too grotesque and violent or that it didn't need the R rating. Still some even want to

**The cross is rough, and it is deadly, but it is effective.**  
 —A. W. Tozer

critique it so much that they turn it into a big money maker by selling books and paraphernalia.

I personally had many reservations. How could the fullness of God coming to us in human form be wrapped up in a two hour Hollywood production? I went in expecting a clean, fluffy, sanitized version of the last 12 hours of Christ's life like so many of our pictures and wall

it's not that kind of movie. Jesus was very un-Hollywood, and any movie about his life should be in that light. I was very pleased to find that Mel Gibson chose to keep the film on the main topic and close to the original Biblical text. It is more real to life than I expected. I'm sure the actual event was even more tragic and heart wrenching; I didn't make it through the movie without tears. However, it isn't the violent beatings or the blood that got to me. It is the reason why Jesus came that was so painful. It's always been hard for me to watch an innocent person be beat to a bloody pulp and not fight back, but it was too much for

**"It's as if Gibson is measuring God's love by the amount of blood he shows on the screen."**  
 — Glenn Whipp, LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

me to handle when I knew he was doing it for me. I've decided to stay away from the 1-5 star rating with which I usually end the reviews. I highly recommend this movie; it's a powerful work of art.

## WHAT THE PEOPLE HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST:

The cool night is bluish-black, and a man is kneeling, visibly anguished and intensely embroiled in conversation, asking in the guttural language of Aramaic for "this cup" to be taken from him.

In the darkness, a gaunt, hooded woman appears.

"Do you really believe one man can bear this burden?" she taunts. "No one man can carry

**It's tough not to describe without using the word "powerful." For pure cinematic artistry it's a masterpiece showing man's inhumanity to man, or in this case, the Son of Man"**

--Michael Szymanski, ZAP2IT.COM

this burden. It's too heavy. Saving their souls is too costly."

A snake slithers from her robe toward the man who, for the first time, has diverted his eyes to this enemy. Suddenly, and without warning his foot comes down, crushing the serpent's head.

In this dramatic two minutes, Hollywood heavyweight director Mel Gibson sets the stage for the horror, beauty, brutality and ultimate victory of the crucifixion, as retold in what is arguably the year's most talked about film release, "The Passion of the Christ."

Excerpt taken from the article "Witness to the Passion" by Lind Warren for Outreach Magazine

[www.outreachmagazine.com](http://www.outreachmagazine.com)

Mel Gibson's the **Passion of the Christ** will

be one of the most influential films in history. This film tells the story of the last 12 hours in the life of Jesus, on the day of his crucifixion in Jerusalem. Director and co-writer, Mel Gibson, one of Hollywood's most respected actors and directors, has

wonderfully captured the last 12 hours of Christ's life on Earth, based on the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Through this project Gibson invested 12 years of his life and

\$25 million of his own funds. The **Passion** became the Oscar-winning actor's unique vision as he researched the details of his Savior's eternal gift to us all.

"Making this film has been the most difficult thing I've ever done," Gibson told **Outreach Magazine**. "Watching it is not easy to do. It's difficult, because Christ's **Passion** was difficult. In watching **The Passion**, I've found it's actually purged me. It somehow heals me to watch it. It's a strange thing. I've never experienced a film like it."

Gibson's goal was to make the most authentic film about Christ ever made. He feels that the story of Jesus' death and resurrection has never been filmed

**"I simply argue that the Cross should be raised at the center of the marketplace as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles; but on a cross between two thieves; on the towns' garbage heap; at a crossroad, so cosmopolitan they had to write his title in Hebrew and Latin and Greek... at the kind of place where cynics talk smut, and thieves curse, and soldiers gamble. Because that is where He died. And that is what He died about. That is where church-men ought to be and what churchmen ought to be about."**

—Celtic spiritual leader George McLeod

accurately according to the four Gospels. Mr. Gibson is quoted saying "My hope is that this movie will affect people on a very profound level and reach them with a message of faith, hope, love and forgiveness."

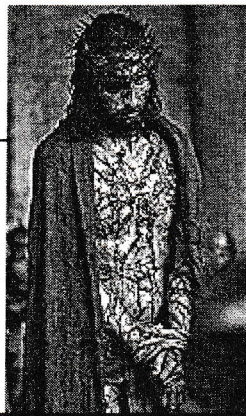
**When asked what was going on with him 12 years ago that made him ask questions and renew his faith in a Reader's Digest interview, Gibson responded: "We usually come to these things in times of trial and pain. I might look like I'm living the high life, making movies and jetting around the world. But true happiness resides within. I was spiritually bankrupt, and when that happens, it's like a spiritual cancer afflicts you. It starts to eat its way through, and if you don't do something, it's going to take you. So I simply had to draw a line in the sand. But it wasn't so much about me making a decision as being backed into a wall."**

Source: Reader's Digest March 2004 pg. 90

Excerpt from Calvary Chapel Atascadero

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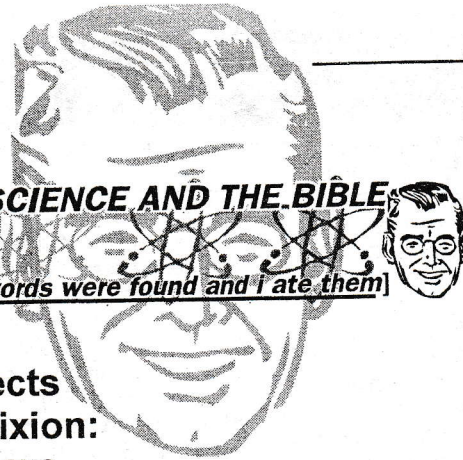
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# \*.feed SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE

jeremiah-1 5:16 [your words were found and i ate them]



## Medical Aspects of The Crucifixion: The Agony of Love

by Dr. Mark Eastman

On the evening before His crucifixion Jesus was gathered with His disciples in the upper room, sharing with them some of the most intimate truths of His entire ministry. As He discussed the love of the Father and His love for His disciples he declared:

*Greater love  
hath no man  
than this,  
that a man  
lay down his  
life for his  
friends. John  
15:13*

Though they did not realize it at the time, the disciples were only hours from the practical realization of this truth. One of the subtle evidences of the supernatural origin of the Biblical text is that astonishing events are often described in extremely brief narratives.

This is perhaps best illustrated in the matter-of-fact way in which the crucifixion of Jesus Christ—the most pivotal event in the history of the universe—is described in the Gospel accounts.

After Jesus was examined and

declared to be without fault by the Roman Procurator Pontius Pilate, he delivered Him to be judged by the assembled crowd. When the opportunity arose to decide the destiny of Jesus, the crowd and the Jewish leadership cried out saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him."<sup>1</sup>

The horrifying events of the next six hours were preceded by the simple words:

*Then  
delivered he  
Him  
therefore  
unto them to  
be crucified.  
And they  
took Jesus,  
and led him  
away. John  
19:16*

### "Great Drops of Blood"

The physical suffering of Jesus began in the Garden of Gethsemane on the evening before His crucifixion. While the disciples slept, the Gospel of Luke records that the LORD "being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."<sup>2</sup>

The notion that someone could actually sweat blood seems contrived. However, there is a rare but recognized condition called hematothrosis, in which capillary blood vessels that feed the sweat glands rupture, causing them to express blood. This usually occurs under conditions of extreme physical or emotional stress. Jesus wasn't sweating blood because he was afraid of the physical pain of the cross. Indeed, the book of Hebrews tells us that Jesus looked forward to the cross:

*Looking unto  
Jesus, the  
author and  
finisher of  
our faith,  
who for the  
joy that was  
set before  
Him endured  
the cross,  
despising the  
shame, and  
has sat down  
at the right  
hand of the  
throne of  
God.  
Hebrews  
12:2*

### The Trials

After Jesus' arrest they led Him away to the High Priest Caiaphas, where the Scribes and elders were assembled. During this inquisition we are told that "some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, 'Prophecy!' And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands."<sup>3</sup>

Beatings about the face received by a blindfolded individual cause even worse trauma because the victim

cannot "roll with the punches." In the hours that followed Jesus received two additional beatings at the hands of Roman soldiers.<sup>4</sup> Severe disfigurement of the face would certainly have resulted from the brutal treatment. It is likely that the eyelids were swollen shut as a result of such beatings. This was done in fulfillment of Isaiah 52:13-14:

*Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men.*

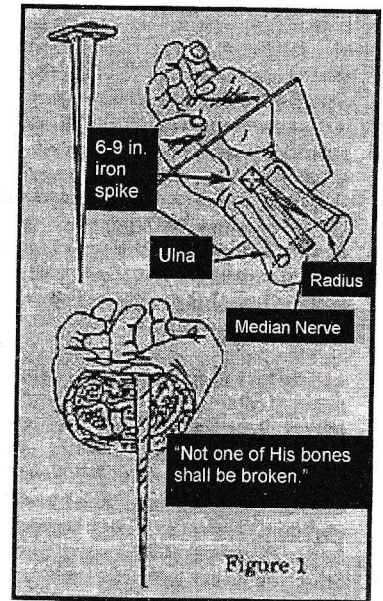
After the scourging of Jesus, the Roman soldiers beat Him a second time with their hands and with a reed. Then they put on him a "crown of thorns."

Jesus had not drunk since the night before, so the combination of the beatings, the crown of thorns, and the scourging would have set into motion an irreversible process of severe dehydration and cardiorespiratory failure. All of this was done so that the prophecy of Isaiah would be fulfilled:

*I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. Isaiah 50:6*

## Crucifixion

Crucifixion was invented by the Persians between 300-400 b.c. It was "perfected" by the Romans in the first century b.c. It is arguably the most painful death ever invented by man and is where we get our term "excruciating." It was reserved primarily for the most vicious of criminals.



## The Scourging

After His trial before Pontius Pilate, Jesus was scourged (flogged) by the Roman guards. This process typically involved a whip with numerous leather thongs, 18-24 inches long, with bits of metal, bone or glass embedded in the leather. At times they would use an iron rod to beat the prisoner. According to Jewish custom, a prisoner was usually flogged 39 times (Forty minus one was a sign of Jewish mercy!)

Scourging was an extreme form of punishment. The skin on the victim's back was usually shredded, thus exposing the underlying muscle and skeletal structures. Severe blood loss and dehydration were the rule. Many victims died from such scourging.

And:

*But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5*

The most common device used for crucifixion was a wooden cross, which consisted of an upright pole permanently fixed in the ground with a removable crossbar, usually weighing between 75-100 lbs. Victims of crucifixion were typically stripped naked and their clothing divided by the Roman guards. In Jesus' case this was done in fulfillment of Psalm 22:18, "They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots."

As a gesture of "Roman kindness" the prisoner was offered a mixture of vinegar (gall) and wine as a mild anesthetic. This anesthetic was refused by Jesus.<sup>5</sup> Consequently, He bore it all! The Apostle Peter stated of Jesus:

*Who his own  
self bare our  
sins in his own  
body on the  
tree, that we,  
being dead to  
sins, should  
live unto  
righteousness:  
by whose  
stripes ye  
were healed.  
1 Peter 2:24*

The victim was then placed on his back, arms stretched out and nailed to the cross bar. The nails, which were generally about 7-9 inches long, were placed between the bones of the forearm (the radius and ulna) and the small bones of the hands (the carpal bones). (Figure 1.)

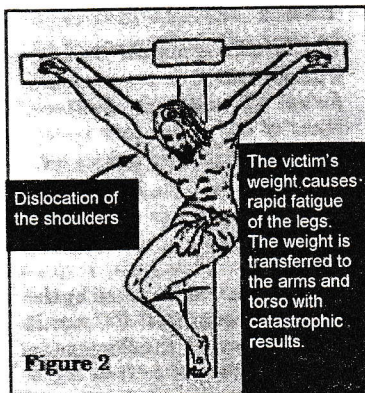
The placement of the nail at this point had several effects. First it ensured that the victim would indeed hang there until dead. Secondly, a nail placed at this point would sever the largest nerve in the hand called the median nerve.

The severing of this nerve is a medical catastrophe. In addition to severe burning pain the destruction of this nerve causes permanent paralysis of the hand. Furthermore, by nailing the victim at this point in the wrist, there would be minimal bleeding and there would be no bones broken! Thus scriptures were fulfilled:

*I can count  
all my  
bones: they  
look and  
stare upon  
me. Psalm  
22:17*

*He keepeth  
all his bones:  
not one of  
them is  
broken.  
Psalm 34:20*

The positioning of the feet is probably the most critical part of the mechanics of crucifixion. First the knees were flexed about 45 degrees and the feet were flexed (bent downward) an additional 45 degrees until they were parallel the vertical pole. An iron nail about 7-9 inches long was driven through the feet between the 2nd and 3rd metatarsal bones. In this position the nail would sever the dorsal pedal artery of the foot, but the resultant bleeding would be insufficient to cause death.



## The Catastrophic Result

The resulting position on the cross sets up a horrific sequence of events which results in a slow, painful death. Having been pinned to the cross, the victim now has an impossible position to maintain. (Figure 2)

With the knees flexed at about 45 degrees, the victim must bear his weight with the muscles of the thigh. However, this is an almost impossible task-try to stand with your knees flexed at 45 degrees for 5

minutes. As the strength of the legs gives out, the weight of the body must now be borne by the arms and shoulders. The result is that within a few minutes of being placed on the cross, the shoulders will become dislocated. Minutes later the elbows and wrists become dislocated. The result of these dislocations is that the arms are as much as 6-9 inches longer than normal.

With the arms dislocated, considerable body weight is transferred to the chest, causing the rib cage to be elevated in a state of perpetual inhalation. Consequently, in order to exhale the victim must push down on his feet to allow the rib muscles to relax. The problem is that the victim cannot push very long because the legs are extremely fatigued. As time goes on, the victim is less and less able to bear weight on the legs, causing further dislocation of the arms and further raising of the chest wall, making breathing more and more difficult.

The result of this process is a series of catastrophic physiological effects. Because the victim cannot maintain adequate ventilation of the lungs, the blood oxygen level begins to diminish and the blood carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) level begins to rise. This rising CO<sub>2</sub> level stimulates the heart to beat faster in order to increase the delivery of oxygen and the removal of CO<sub>2</sub>.

However, due to the pinning of the victim and the limitations of oxygen delivery, the victim cannot deliver more oxygen and the rising heart rate only increases oxygen demand. So this process sets up a vicious cycle of increasing oxygen demand-which cannot be met-followed by an ever increasing heart rate. After several hours the heart begins to fail, the lungs collapse and fill up with fluid, which further decreases oxygen delivery to the tissues. The blood loss and

hyperventilation combines to cause severe dehydration. That's why Jesus said, "I thirst."<sup>6</sup>

Over a period of several hours the combination of collapsing lungs, a failing heart, dehydration, and the inability to get adequate oxygen supplies to the tissues cause the eventual death of the victim. The victim, in effect, cannot breath properly and slowly suffocates to death. In cases of severe cardiac stress, such as crucifixion, a victim's heart can even burst. This process is called "Cardiac Rupture." Therefore it could be said that Jesus died of a "broken heart!"

To slow the process of death the executioners put a small wooden seat on the cross, which would allow the victim the privilege of bearing his weight on his buttocks. The effect of this was that it could take up to nine days to die on a cross.

When the Romans wanted to expedite death they would simply break the legs of the victim, causing him to suffocate in a matter of minutes. At three o'clock in the afternoon Jesus said, "Tetelastai," meaning "it is finished." Then He gave up the ghost. When the soldiers came to Jesus to break His legs, He was already dead. Not a bone of Him was broken!

#### How Should We Then Live?

I realize that it is difficult to read of the details of Jesus' physical sufferings. And yet, when we realize that He looked forward, on our behalf, to the cross, we are overwhelmed with His practical demonstration of love and, hopefully, a personal realization of our unworthiness. How should we then live? I believe that the Apostle Paul said it best:

*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in*

*the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:5-11*

[www.khouse.org](http://www.khouse.org)

This article was originally published in the April 1998 Personal Update NewsJournal.

Notes: [RETURN TO TEXT]

1. John 19:6.
2. Luke 22:44.
3. Mark 14:65.
4. Matthew 27; Luke 23.
5. Matthew 27:34.
6. John 19:28



study materials  
music  
commentaries  
bibles

**Jesus Fellowship Bookstore**

Jesus Fellowship Bookstore offers a wide variety of Bible study materials all at just above cost. This is the cheapest place to buy in the area.

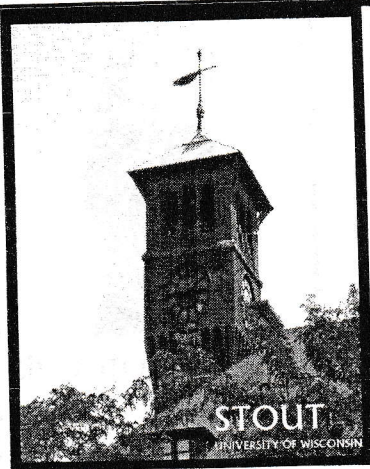
We offer a wide selection of Bibles, commentaries, taped studies, cd resources and so much more. We also have an extensive lending library of tapes and books.

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Bookstore  
[bookstore.jfb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bookstore.jfb@sbcglobal.net)

Please email or hand-write a letter with any questions.

621 Wilson Avenue • Menomonie, Wisconsin • 54751



• **Sat., April 3**

Softball at Augustana Tourney, Rock Island, Ill, TBA

Gymnastics at NCGA Championships, Cambridge, Mass, TBA

M & W Track at Washington University Invite, St. Louis, Mo, 10 a.m.

Baseball at UW-Oshkosh, 12 p.m.

• **Sunday, April 4**

Baseball at UW-Oshkosh, 12 p.m.

• **Tue., April 6**

Baseball vs. St. Scholastica, 2 p.m.

Softball at Hamline University, 3 p.m.

• **Thur., April 8**

Baseball vs. UW-Whitewater, 1 p.m.

Softball at UW-River Falls, 3 p.m.

• **Fri., April 9**

Baseball vs. UW-Whitewater, 12 p.m.

W Track at Gustavus Adolphus Invite, 10 a.m.

• **Sat., April 10**

M Track at UW-LaCrosse Invite, TBA

• **Mon., April 12**

Softball vs. UW-Eau Claire, 4 p.m.

• **Wed., April 14**

Tennis at St. Benedict's, 4 p.m.

Baseball vs. UW-La Crosse, 1 p.m.

Softball at UW-Superior, 3 p.m.

• **Thur., April 15**

Tennis at St. Mary's, 3:30 p.m.

• **Friday, April 16**

M Track at Carleton Invite, TBA

• **Sat., April 17**

W Track at St. Olaf Invite, 12 p.m.

Baseball vs. UW-Stevens Point, 12 p.m.

Softball at WIAC Cluster Tourney, at Platteville, vs.

Platteville, 3 p.m., vs. Whitewater, 5 p.m.

• **Sun., April 18**

Baseball vs. UW-Stevens Point, 12 p.m.

Softball at WIAC Cluster Tourney, at Platteville, vs. Oshkosh, 12:30 p.m., vs. Point, 2:30 p.m.

• **Mon., April 19**

Tennis at UW-River Falls, 4 p.m.

• **Tue., April 20**

Tennis at Hamline, 4 p.m.

• **Wed., April 21**

M Track at Macalester Twilight, 5 p.m.

• **Thur., April 22**

Baseball vs. Viterbo (1-9), 3 p.m.

Softball vs. UW-La Crosse, 4 p.m.

• **Fri., April 23**

M Track at Drake Relays, TBA

• **Sat., April 24**

W Track at UW-La Crosse Classic, 1 p.m.

M Track at Drake Relays, TBA

Baseball vs. UW-Platteville, 12 p.m.

Softball at WIAC Cluster Tourney, at La Crosse, vs. Oshkosh, 11 a.m., vs. Point, 3 p.m.

• **Sun., April 25**

Baseball vs. UW-Platteville, 12 p.m.

Softball at WIAC Cluster Tourney, at La Crosse, vs. Whitewater, 8:30 a.m., vs. Platteville, 10:30 a.m.

• **Tue., April 27**

Tennis at Martin Luther College, 3:30 p.m.

**UW-STOUT**

Athletic Calendar  
APRIL-MAY



• **Fri., April 30**

Baseball at St. Thomas,  
3 p.m.  
W Track at UW-La Crosse,  
4 p.m.  
Softball at WIAC Tourney, at  
River Falls, TBA

• **Sat., May 1**

Softball at WIAC Tourney, at  
River Falls, TBA

• **Sun., May 2**

Tennis at St. Scholastica, noon  
Baseball at Upper Iowa,  
Fayette, Iowa, noon

• **Wed., May 5**

Baseball vs. Waldorf College,  
1 p.m.

• **Fri., May 7**

M & W Track at WIAC  
Championships, Eau Claire,  
11 a.m.  
Baseball at UW-Superior,  
1 p.m.

• **Sat., May 8**

M & W Track at WIAC  
Championships, Eau Claire,  
11 a.m.  
Baseball at UW-Superior,  
12 p.m.

• **Fri., May 14**

Baseball at WIAC Tourney, TBA

• **Sat., May 15**

M Track at North Central  
Qualifier, Naperville, Ill.. TBA  
Baseball at WIAC Tourney,  
TBA

• **Thur., May 20**

Baseball at NCAA Division III  
Regionals, TBA

• **Fri., May 21**

M Track at NCAA Qualifier,  
La Crosse, TBA  
Baseball at NCAA Division III  
Regionals, TBA

• **Sat., May 22**

M Track at St. Thomas  
Qualifier, TBA  
W Track at Oshkosh Last  
Chance, noon  
Baseball at NCAA Division III  
Regionals, TBA

• **Sun., May 23**

Baseball at NCAA Division III  
Regionals, TBA

• **May 27-29**

M & W Track at NCAA Division  
III Championships, Decatur,  
Ill, 10 am.

• **May 28 - June 1**

NCAA Division III Baseball  
World Series, Grand Chute,  
TBA

## STOUT ADVENTURES

**April 5**

**10 pm: Movie Monday  
At the Climbing Wall**

**April 16-18**

**Devil's Lake, WI  
Rock Climbing**

**Sign up by: Fri. Apr. 9  
Mandatory Pre-trip Meeting:  
Tue. Apr. 13, 7 pm  
Price: \$50 UWS/\$65 COM**

**April 23-25**

**Superior Hiking Trail Section  
Hike, MN**

**Sign up by: Fri. April 16  
Mandatory Pre-trip Meeting:  
Tue. Apr. 20, 7 pm  
Price: \$50 UWS/\$65 COM**

**May 4th**

**9pm: Full Moon Paddle  
Sign up by: Mon. May 3  
Price: Free**

**May 8th**

**Barn Bluff Rock Climbing,  
Red Wing, MN  
Sign up by: Fri. Apr. 30  
Mandatory Pre-trip Meeting:  
Tue.. May 4, 7 pm  
Price: \$12 UWS/\$15 COM**



## STOUT BANDS

APRIL 17, 2004  
Family Weekend  
Concert/Jazz Band  
11:00 A.M.  
Great Hall

MAY 8, 2004  
Graduation Ceremonies  
Concert Band  
Johnson Field House  
8:30- 11:30 A.M.  
1:30 - 4:30 P.M.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Friday, April 9  
Spring Holiday, No Classes

Wednesday, May 5  
Classes End

Thursday, May 6  
Study Day, No Classes

Friday, May 7- Thursday May 13  
Evaluation Week

Saturday, May 8  
Commencement

Monday, May 24 - Saturday, June 13  
Pre-Summer Session

Monday, May 31  
Memorial Day, No Classes

Monday, June 14 - Friday, August 6  
Eight- week Regular Summer Session

Monday June 14 - Friday July 9  
First 4-week session

Monday, July 5  
Independence Day Observed, No Classes

Monday, July 12- Friday, August 6  
Second 4- week Session

Saturday, August 7 - Sunday, August 29  
Post-Summer Session

## LOCAL AREA UPCOMING EVENTS

### April 2004

4/3 Crash Course Pastels Workshop -  
Date: April 3, Ages: 16 & up, Cost:  
\$50 (does not include supply), Time:  
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
For info call 715-235-1998

4/9-10 Spring - AAU Boy's GLS  
Sanctioned Basketball Tournament.  
Held at Johnson Fieldhouse, UW-  
Stout, Menomonie. For more info  
visit [www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)

4/15 The Glen Miller Orchestra. To  
be held in the Great Hall on the UW-  
Stout Campus. A dance floor will be  
set up. Performance begins at 7 p.m.  
Tickets: \$21 Adult; \$19 Students. For  
information or to purchase tickets call  
715-235-0001.

4/15-16 Tri-Mart Spring Fling at the  
Dunn County Rec. Park, 620 17th  
Street, Menomonie - Call Tri-Mart at  
715-235-2151 for more information

4/16 Red Cedar Racing Season  
Opener - racing starts at 7 p.m. at  
the Red Cedar Speedway,  
Menomonie. For more info visit  
<http://www.redcedarracing.com>

4/16-4/18 Family Weekend at  
UW-Stout. For more info visit  
[www.uwstout.edu/housing/irha/  
familyweekend.htm](http://www.uwstout.edu/housing/irha/familyweekend.htm) or  
email: [familyweekend@uwstout.edu](mailto:familyweekend@uwstout.edu)

4/17-18 Regionals - AAU Girl's  
Sanctioned Basketball Tournament at  
Johnson Fieldhouse, UW-Stout,  
Menomonie. For more info visit  
[www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)

4/18 Stout Auto Show at the Dunn  
County Rec. Park, 620 17th Street,  
Menomonie - Call Nick at 715-608-  
963-9198 for more information

4/24 Red Cedar Auto Club's Annual  
Spring Show - Colfax Fair Grounds,  
9-3:30 p.m.

4/24-25 2004 AAU Girl's State  
Finals Sanctioned Basketball  
Tournament. Held at Johnson  
Fieldhouse, UW-Stout,  
Menomonie. For more info visit  
[www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)

### May 2004

5/1-2 Spring Great Lakes  
Shootout - AAU Girl's Sanctioned  
Basketball Tournament. Held at  
Johnson Fieldhouse, UW-Stout,  
Menomonie. For more info visit  
[www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)

5/7-8 Missoula Children's Theater  
presents "The Frog Prince" at the  
Mabel Tainter Theater,  
Menomonie. Time: Friday, 7 p.m.  
and Saturday, 2 p.m., Cost \$7  
Adults; \$6 Seniors & Students; \$4  
Children To reserve call the Ticket  
Office at 715-235-0001.

5/12 Greater Menomonie Area  
Chamber of Commerce Golf  
Outing will be held at Whitetail  
Golf Course, Colfax. Noon  
Shotgun start.

5/14 Reading Round-up at the  
Dunn County Rec. Park, 620 17th  
Street, Menomonie - Call  
Stephanie Beyer at 715-665-2131  
for more information

5/28-31 Memorial Day Classic -  
AAU Boy's Sanctioned Basketball  
Tournament. Held at Johnson  
Fieldhouse, UW-Stout,  
Menomonie. Contact Keith Noll at  
715-231-4000 for more  
information or visit  
[www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)

5/29 Wakanda Water Park will be  
open daily 11 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
through Labor Day

5/29-5/30 2004 Memorial Day  
Classic - AAU Girl's Sanctioned  
Basketball Tournament. for more  
information visit  
[www.wiaahoops.com](http://www.wiaahoops.com)



# Concert Scope

## \*The Blind Munchies Coffeehouse

621 Wilson Avenue-2 blocks from Campus  
Menomonie, WI  
mail\_jfb@yahoo.com  
www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu



All concerts start at 7pm and there is No Cover ever!

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
The Roosevelt's (punk)

**April 16<sup>th</sup>**  
TBA

**April 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Leper (gothic)

## \*Rock Solid

75 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Level  
Winona, MN  
507-452-2125  
All Concerts 8pm—No Cover  
**April 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Stentorian  
www.stentorianmusic.com  
Windsor Airlift

www.windsorairlift.4t.com

**April 10<sup>th</sup>**  
The Roosevelt's  
www.theroosevelts.net

Runaway 36  
www.runawaythirtysix.com

**April 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Words of Grace  
www.wordsofgrace.net

Moxie Bliss  
www.moxiebliss.com

**April 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Ellen Marvin-Unplugged  
www.ellenmarvin.com  
With Special Guests  
Mike Kramer & Nathan Ray

**\*Ginkgo Coffeehouse**  
721 N. Snelling Avenue  
St. Paul, MN  
1-651-645-2647  
www.gingkocoffee.com  
Kathy@gingkocoffee.com

Open Mic: **Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday** of the month. Sign up by 6:30pm  
Bluegrass Jam session: **Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**



### GINKGO COFFEEHOUSE

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Check out these "fav" bands at a venue near you!

## \*Sojourner's Café

1406 White Bear Lake Ave South  
St. Paul, MN  
1-651-771-9614  
Various Artists  
Call for schedule

## \*Dreamcoat Cafe

215 S Main  
Stillwater MN  
651-430-0615  
Various Kinds of Acoustic Music  
Call for schedule

## \*Club 3 Degrees

113 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mpls, MN  
1-612-781-8488  
info@club3degrees.com  
www.club3degrees.com



**April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Kutless & Thousand Foot Krutch

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Music Tournament Round 3

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** Karen Clark Sheard

## NOT YOUR TYPICAL CHRISTIAN ROCK STATION!

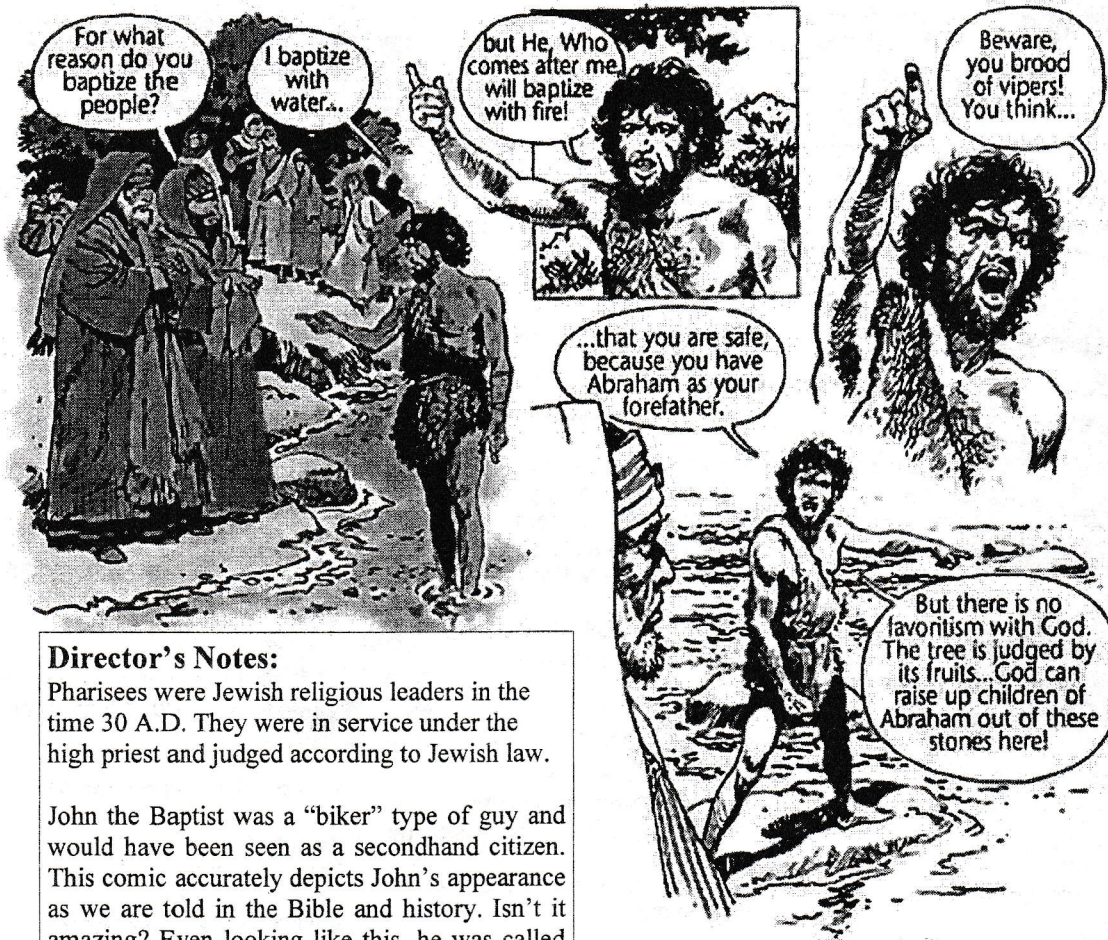
# JESUS ROCK 101.7

## WRJF-LP 101.7 FM

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### MENOMONIE'S ONLY JESUS-ROCK STATION!

Bible Teaching, Punk, Metal, Electronic, Rap, Dance, Trance, Nu-Rock, Alternative, Strange & More!



### Director's Notes:

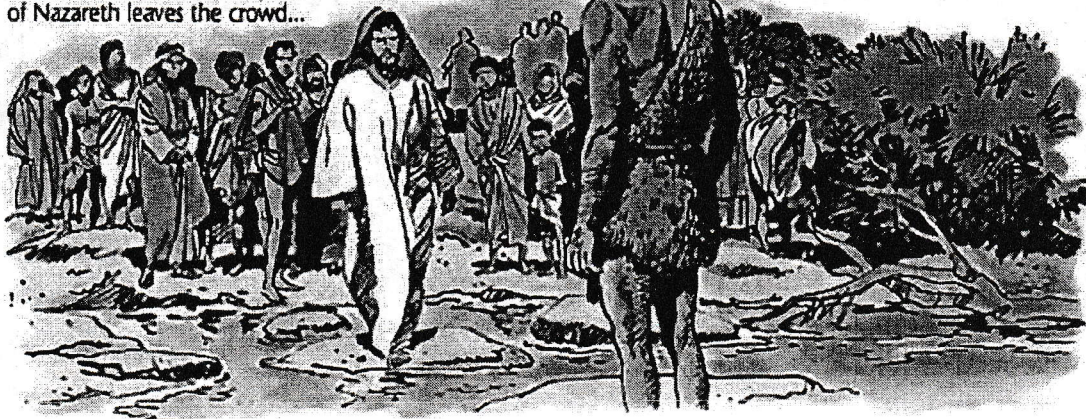
Pharisees were Jewish religious leaders in the time 30 A.D. They were in service under the high priest and judged according to Jewish law.

John the Baptist was a "biker" type of guy and would have been seen as a secondhand citizen. This comic accurately depicts John's appearance as we are told in the Bible and history. Isn't it amazing? Even looking like this, he was called by God to usher in the coming Messiah.

*No 3-piece suits available, I guess.*

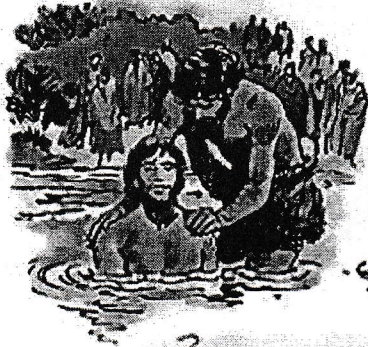
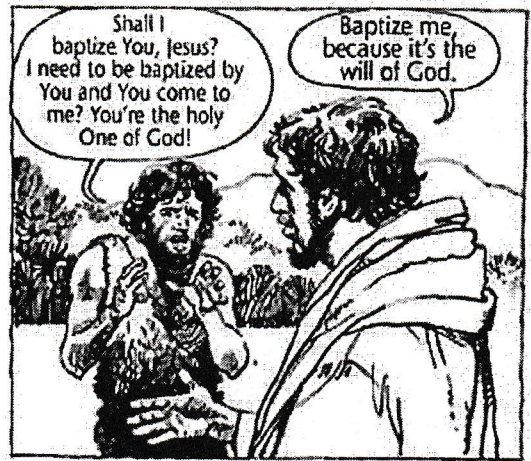
...and steps forward towards John the Baptist and says:

At that moment a certain Jesus of Nazareth leaves the crowd...



### Director's Notes:

What stuck out about John the Baptist was his character. He wasn't a lying, cheating, scum-bag but was humble before God and spoke with authority concerning the truth. He was real, man.





## Beatnik's Corner

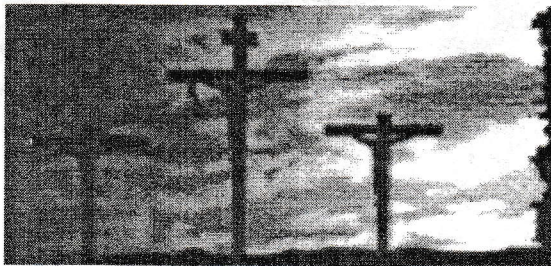
### Beautiful Scandalous Night

Go on up to the mountain of mercy  
 To the crimson perpetual tide  
 Kneel down on the shore  
 Be thirsty no more  
 Go under and be purified

Follow Christ to the holy mountain  
 Sinner, sorry and wrecked by the fall  
 Cleanse your heart and your soul  
 In the fountain that flows  
 For you and for me and for all

At the wonderful tragic mysterious tree  
 On that beautiful scandalous night  
 you and me  
 Were atoned by His blood and forever  
 washed white  
 On that beautiful scandalous night

On the hillside you will be delivered  
 At the foot of the cross justified  
 And your spirit restored  
 By the river that pours  
 From our blessed Savior's side



Words by Steve Hindalong. Music by Derrri Daugherty  
[Thechoir.net](http://Thechoir.net) and [galaxy21music.com](http://galaxy21music.com)



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- Bakery •
- Pastry •

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#### CONCERTS:

Apr. 2nd—The Rooseveltts  
 punk

Apr. 30th—Leper  
 Goth

April 16th—TBA

2 BLOCKS from  
 The UW-STOUT Campus

#### The Blind Munchies Scoop:

"The Munchies" is a groovy retro coffeehouse decked out in antiques and old couches. It is a comfortable place to come and chill out with the books, play a quick game of pool, or just listen to the cool music playing in the background. Our coffee and food items are priced as suggested donation. The coffee is the best gourmet coffee you will find in town. With flavors such as "Heart of Darkness", "Jet Fuel", "French Roast", and "Velvet Hammer", it's sure to get you going in the morning or keep you up for that late night cramming session. We also serve a full line of espresso and specialty drinks like mochas, lattes, and Italian sodas. More good news: we serve fresh bakery daily. On Sundays and Wednesdays we serve hot food like pizza, chili, soup, or sandwiches. While Stout is in session, there is also live music twice a month. The music is eclectic: everything from acoustic to punk and there's no cover ever! We are generally open from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and are located at 621 Wilson Avenue in Menomonie, one block east of Burger King. Need a place to chill? Come on down. More info?

Hotline: 715-235-9300

# To the nomadic tribes everywhere, the very ones the world looks down upon:

atheists, punks, skins, artists, musicians, poets, misfits, unwanted, the suicidal, even the mental. God has a plan for you; it's a very personal plan, one between you and Him. The very worldly system you despise and hate, with all its bigotry, violence, and greed, its corruption, lies and hypocrisy; that is the same system you have allowed to form your opinion about God. THE WORLD'S PROPAGANDA about God's son, Jesus, IS FALSE. It's God who Loves you, it's God who sent his only Son to die for all your sins, and if you believe that very fact, it will be God who will receive you into Heaven.



Yes! There is heaven; there is life after death. Don't die without Christ as your Savior. Don't allow this worldly system to continue forming your opinion about God. If you really want to know the truth, ask God. Simply say this. "God if You are real, reveal Yourself to me, show me who You are."

Jesus was the nicest person ever to step foot on this planet! The only people He ever raised his voice against were the self righteous, religious hypocrites. He did it for you, so that you would know truth, and that very truth would set you free.

## THE WORLD'S PROPAGANDA IS FALSE

[www.headnoise.org](http://www.headnoise.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO YOU WANT A FREE BIBLE?**



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**MAIL TO:**

Street Level, 621 Wilson Ave. Menomonie, WI 54751

# Street Level Ministries

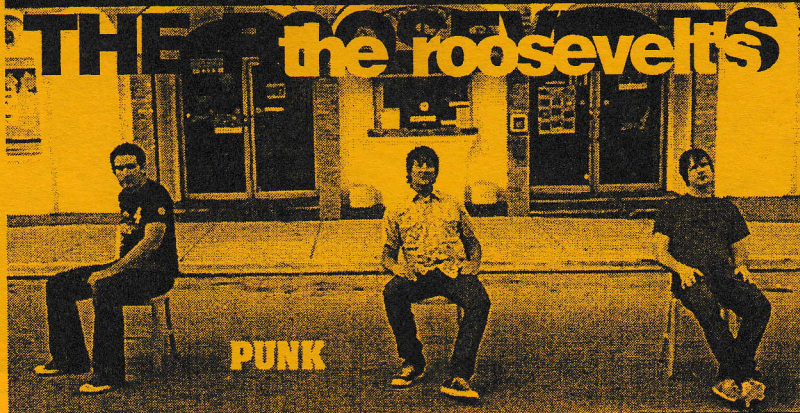
UW-STOUT

621 Wilson Avenue

Menomonie, WI 54751

[www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu](http://www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu)

**LIVE AT THE BLIND MUNCHIES COFFEEHOUSE - MENOMONIE, WISCONSIN**



**APRIL 2ND, 2004  
NO COVER CHARGE!  
7:00PM**

[www.theroosevelts.net](http://www.theroosevelts.net)

<http://fundsites.com/leper/index2.htm>

**APRIL 30th, 2004  
NO COVER CHARGE!  
7:00PM**



[www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu](http://www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu) Click on "Concerts"