

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

Title:

When Morning Came

Speaker:

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Date:

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Scriptures:

Matthew 27:1–44

**Theme:** Christ's blood is on our hands; flee to the mercy in his heart.

**Introduction:** Matthew's gospel account arrives at the crucifixion of Jesus in chapter 27, and our world of secularists, pagans, and polytheists are scandalized by a crucified Lord. But for the heart that believes, it is in the death of Christ that we rise to the heights of Christian doctrine and the joys of salvation. In Matthew 27, Matthew makes it clear that all of humanity is to blame for the death of Jesus Christ.

The theme of blood can be seen in the three sections of Matthew 27:

### 1. Blood money and worldly sorrow (3–10)

- Matthew tells us that Judas regrets his betrayal but seeks repentance with the wrong people: the chief priests and elders.
- Judas's regret comes on the heels of Peter's denial, and while both men have a "change of mind," only Peter would go to Jesus and receive his grace.
- Judas is an example of worldly grief as opposed to godly grief (see 2 Cor. 7:10).
- The chief priests and elders use the money Judas returned to purchase a burial place, unwittingly fulfilling Old Testament prophecies.

### 2. Bloody hands and expediency (11–26)

- Matthew shifts back to Jesus's condemnation, describing Jesus's interaction with Pontius Pilate.
- Despite believing Jesus is innocent because of Jesus's silence, the envy of the Jewish leaders, and his wife's dream, Pilate hands him over to be crucified.
- Pilate "washes his hands clean" of Jesus, but no amount of water could wash away the stains of his role in murdering the Lord.

### 3. Bloody cross and mockery (27–44)

- Jesus is turned over to the Romans to be beaten before being crucified.
- Matthew gives the most attention to the mockery of Christ, mocking which ironically expresses profound truths about the Lord (*he is the King of the Jews, he is the Temple, he is the Son of God, etc.*).
- Very little attention is given to the crucifixion; the Bible is more concerned with the meaning of Christ's death than the details of his death. The wrath of God that Jesus endured far outweighed the physical violence of the cross.

**Questions:**

1. What does the story of Judas teach about worldly vs godly grief? How can you ensure your grief and repentance are godly?
2. How do non-Christians seek to "wash their hands clean" of Jesus, similar to what Pilate did?
3. Why is it essential for us to know that it was our sin that held Jesus on the cross?