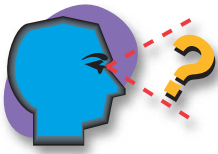


# John

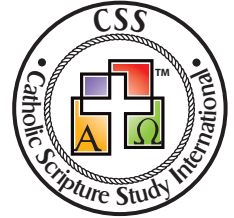


## Responses to the Questions

NOTE: BE SURE TO ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS YOURSELF BEFORE READING THE ANSWERS IN ORDER TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS STUDY.

### Read John 19:17-42

1. Thousands of Jews from all over the world were in Jerusalem to celebrate and worship at Passover. So that all that looked upon it would be able to read it, the sign was written in the three most common languages at that time – Hebrew, the local language of the Jews; Greek, the common language used in the Empire and Latin, the language of the Romans. John's purpose in noting it is to make clear that the whole world condemned Jesus and that Jesus is king of the whole world.
2. John does not say, but it could be another reflection of Pilate's contempt for the Jews. For John, it is also another example of the dramatic irony that suffuses the story of the crucifixion. Once again, a contributor to Christ's sufferings speaks more truly than he knows.
3. Psalm 22:18 reads, "They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots." A Davidic King is persecuted by his enemies in terms hauntingly familiar to the Christian reader.
4. Most scholars agree that the "disciple that Jesus loved" is St. John, the author of this Gospel. In this gesture, Jesus wasn't only securing a place for his mother to live, but he was signifying that by giving his mother to his disciple and vice-versa. For John, the beloved disciple is also a symbol of every Christian believer and a sign that we, as Christ's disciples are to see Mary as our mother as well.
5. The fact that Jesus entrusted his mother to the care of John implies that St. Joseph had apparently died by this time and also points to the fact that Jesus did not have brothers or he wouldn't have needed to give her care over to John.
6. That the "hour" of Jesus has been fulfilled and his work of suffering for the sins of the world is now complete.
7. When a person was hanging on the cross, they had to use their legs to push themselves up in order to breathe. With their legs broken, they would soon suffocate.
8. In Exodus 12:46, God specifies that the Passover lamb's bones shall not be broken (just as Jesus, our Pascal Lamb's bones were not broken).
9. The Eucharist and Baptism.



## ***Responses to the Questions (cont.)***

10. They were preparing for the Passover. St. John was making the point that because it was the Day of Preparation, the body of Jesus had to be taken down from the cross because, the Jews would not want dead bodies left out on the Sabbath, and especially on this special feast day. John also wanted to bring to the reader's attention that Jesus died at the same time that the paschal lambs were being sacrificed in the Temple.