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## **"THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST"**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

1. Much controversy has surrounded the movie **"The Passion Of The Christ"** by Mel Gibson...
   1. Mostly for fear that it might incite anti-Semitic passions
   2. Also because it is violently graphic in its depiction of Christ's suffering
2. Without question, the suffering of Christ, leading up to and including the crucifixion was terrible...
   1. The beatings, which must have been excruciatingly painful - [**Mt 26:67**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2026.67)**;** [**27:26-31**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Mt%2027.26-31)
   2. Nailed to the cross, which Jesus was willing to bear without drugs - [**Mt 27:33-35**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2027.33-35)
   3. A shameful way to die, mocked by some, crucified with thieves - [**Mt 27:36-44**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2027.36-44)
3. While there may be a place for contemplating upon the physical passion Jesus endured...
   1. He did not want people to weep for Him, but for themselves - cf. [**Lk 23:26-31**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Luke%2023.26-31)
   2. His concern for others was evident, even on the cross - [**Lk 23:34**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Luke%2023.34)

[The significance and lessons to be learned from the suffering of Jesus should go far beyond feeling sorry for what He endured. For example, we should never forget that **"The Passion Of The Christ"** is...]

1. **THE CONDEMNATION OF SIN**
   1. **JESUS SUFFERED BECAUSE OF SIN...**
      1. As foretold, He died for our sins - [**1Co 15:3**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Cor%2015.3)**;** [**Isa 53:5-6**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Isa%2053.5-6)
      2. He gave Himself for our sins - [**Ga 1:4**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Gal%201.4)
      3. He bore our sins on the cross - [**1Pe 2:24**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Pet%202.24)
   2. **-- May the thought of His passion remind us of our own sinfulness and the need for redemption -** [**1Jn 1:8**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%201.8)**,[10](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1Jn%201.10)JESUS KILLED SIN...**
      1. He condemned sin in the flesh through His death - [**Ro 8:3**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%208.3)
      2. Making it possible for sinners to destroy their own body of sin, when united with Him by baptism into His death - [**Ro 6:3-6**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%206.3-6)
2. **THE REVELATION OF LOVE**
   1. **JESUS SUFFERED BECAUSE OF LOVE...**
      1. The love of the Father for a lost world - [**Jn 3:16**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%203.16)**;** [**Ro 5:8**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%205.8)
      2. The love of the Son - [**Ep 5:2**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Eph%205.2)
   2. **-- May our contemplation of His passion never neglect the love that was behind the fact -** [**1Jn 4:9-10**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%204.9-10)**JESUS THEREBY DEMONSTRATED WHAT TRUE LOVE IS...**
      1. We now understand the meaning of true love - [**1Jn 3:16**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%203.16)**;** [**Jn 15:13**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%2015.13)
      2. His love serves as the pattern for our love - [**Jn 13:34-35**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%2013.34-35)**;** [**15:12**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Jn%2015.12)
3. **THE REDEMPTION OF THE WORLD**
   1. **JESUS SUFFERED FOR ALL...**
      1. God desires all men to be saved, not desiring any to perish - [**1Ti 2:3-6**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Tim%202.3-6)**;** [**2Pe 3:9**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2%20Pet%203.9)
      2. Therefore He offered Jesus as a propitiation for all - [**1Jn 2:1-2**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%202.1-2)
   2. **-- May our meditation upon His passion include thinking about the need of othersJESUS IS THE WORLD'S ONLY HOPE...**
      1. He is the only way to the Father - [**Jn 14:6**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%2014.6)
      2. Only in His name is salvation to be found - [**Ac 4:12**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Acts%204.12)
      3. Deny the Son, and one does not have the Father - [**1Jn 2:23**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%202.23) 4 Abide in His doctrine, and one has both the Father and the Son - [**2Jn 9**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2%20John%209)
4. **THE INSPIRATION OF SACRIFICE**
   1. **JESUS PROVIDED THE EXAMPLE...**
      1. His suffering demonstrated the mind of humility - [**Php 2:3-8**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Phil%202.3-8)
      2. His suffering demonstrated the example of suffering patiently - [**1Pe 2:20-24**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Pet%202.20-24)
   2. **-- May our reflection upon His passion move us to consider what His sacrifice should inspire us to doJESUS' SACRIFICE IS DESIGNED TO INSPIRE US...**
      1. To walk in love - [**Ep 5:2**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Eph%205.2)
      2. To walk in humility - [**Php 2:3-5**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Phil%202.3-5)
      3. To suffer patiently when mistreated for doing good - [**1Pe 2:20-24**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Pet%202.20-24)
      4. To give of ourselves to others - [**2Co 8:9**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2%20Cor%208.9)**;** [**1Jn 3:16-18**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20John%203.16-18)

##### **CONCLUSION**

1. Certainly, more could be said about **"The Passion Of The Christ"**...
   1. Both the movie, and the historical events it seeks to portray
   2. E.g., the fact that any anti-Semitic reaction would be contrary to the will of Christ
2. But perhaps these few thoughts will increase our appreciation of Christ's suffering...
   1. His passion is **the condemnation of sin**
   2. His passion is **the revelation of love**
   3. His passion is **the redemption of the world**
   4. His passion is **the inspiration of sacrifice**
3. Have you taken advantage of what **"The Passion Of The Christ"** means for you...?
   1. Have you been crucified with Christ?
   2. Are you putting to death the deeds of the flesh?
   3. Are you growing in love?
   4. Are you concerned and doing something about the redemption of the world?
   5. Are you inspired in your service to brethren and the lost by the example of Jesus' sacrifice?

May **"The Passion Of The Christ"** motivate you to obey and serve the One who died for you...

**"For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again." -** [**2Co 5:14-15**](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/2%20Cor%205.14-15)