

# The Ceresco Messenger - March 2026

## THE (SCIENTIFIC) DEATH OF JESUS

At the age of 33, Jesus was condemned to the death. At the time crucifixion was the "worst" death. Only the worst criminals were condemned to be crucified. Yet it was even more dreadful for Jesus, unlike other criminals condemned to death by crucifixion Jesus was to be nailed to the cross by His hands and feet. Each nail was 6 to 8 inches long.

The nails were driven into His wrist. Not into His palms as is commonly portrayed. There's a tendon in the wrist that extends to the shoulder. The Roman guards knew that when the nails were being hammered into the wrist that tendon would tear and break, forcing Jesus to use His back muscles to support Himself so that He could breathe. Both of His feet were nailed together. Thus He was forced to support Himself on the single nail that impaled His feet to the cross. Jesus could not support Himself with His legs because of the pain so He was forced to alternate between arching His back then using his legs just to continue to breathe.

Imagine the struggle, the pain, the suffering, the courage. Jesus endured this reality for over 3 hours. Yes, over 3 hours! Can you imagine this kind of suffering? A few minutes before He died, Jesus stopped bleeding. He was simply pouring water from his wounds. From common images we see wounds to His hands and feet and even the spear wound to His side...

But do we realize His wounds were actually made in His body. A hammer driving large nails through the wrist, the feet overlapped and large nail hammered through the arches, then a Roman guard piercing His side with a spear. But before the nails and the spear Jesus was whipped and beaten. The whipping was so severe that it tore the flesh from His body. The beating so horrific that His face was torn and his beard ripped from His face. The crown of thorns cut deeply into His scalp.

Most men would not have survived this torture. He had no more blood to bleed out, only water poured from His wounds. The human adult body contains about 3.5 liters (just less than a gallon) of blood. Jesus poured all 3.5 liters of His blood; He had three nails hammered into His members; a crown of thorns on His head and, beyond that, a Roman soldier who stabbed a spear into His chest. *(continued on next page)*

## ***Dusty Bibles***

There is a song that is popular right now and part of the lyrics follow:

*"We got dust on our Bibles, brand new I phones, and wonder why we feel this way".*

Think about it - Dust on our Bibles? Why is that? When was the last time you blew the dust off of your Bible? You might be thinking to yourself, I don't need the physical Bible, I have my I phone and it has the Bible app! Well, that is great BUT, what happens when your app is not working? What happens then? You could say, well, I will just look at the verses later when the app is working. Swell. But be honest, will you really?

What happens when we go to be with our Lord and Savior and someone reaches for that "dusty" Bible, that person who we have prayed and prayed will find salvation? Oh, there is so much dust on it that they say "well, I guess it was not to be if they never even opened and read it".

What happens in the end times, YES, there will be end times and there will be no power, no app, no I phone and someone goes to again reach for that mound of dust - your Bible?

I used to think that I should not make any marks in my Bible at all, but a wise Octogenarian explained this to me: "There will be a time when someone will open that Bible and need to know where to read, what verses; will need to see the notes you took". So now, I have many many notes and underlined passages in my Bible. My Bible does not collect dust. I want those who go after me to be able to say, "I see Your word LORD and I want You into my heart".

I may not have much to leave when I depart this world but if all I have to leave is my heavily written in, underlined Bible then I have done my duty and will run to my Savior.

~ Jennie Markos

### **SCIENTIFIC DEATH OF CHRIST - CONCLUDED:**

All these without mentioning the humiliation He suffered after carrying His own cross for almost 2 kilometers, while the crowd spat in his face and threw stones (the cross was almost 30 kg of weight, only for its higher part, where His hands were nailed). Jesus had to endure this experience, to open the Gates of Heaven, so that you can have free access to God. So that your sins could be "washed" away. All of them, with no exception!

**JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU!**

## Minute Moment

Yes, I am “Homesick for Heaven.” I can’t wait to see my loved ones who are there, waiting for me on the streets of gold! But there is still work to be done here for my Savior.

I recently heard a sermon that said, if you don’t act on the nudge God gives you, you might be missing an opportunity. An opportunity for what, you ask? Who knows! Just remember—every opportunity is a chance to spread His Word.

Sometimes you may think, *Well, there’s no way God is telling me to do this. I don’t have the resources, education, etc. The list could go on forever. But remember this: if God puts you there, He will provide the resources and the way.*

### **1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)**

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

### **Psalm 86:13 (NIV)**

“For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead”.

Do you have a “*Minute Moment*” to share?

- Submitted by Jennie Markos

## Welcome to the month of March & the Lenten Season

<b>Date</b>	<b>Worship Flowers</b>	<b>Special Music</b>	<b>Junior Church</b>	<b>Children’s Time</b>
<b>3/1/2026</b>	<b>Sarah Collins</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>3/8/2026</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>Sommers</b>
<b>3/15/2026</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>3/22/2026</b>	<b>Sommers</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>Sommers</b>
<b>3/29/2026</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>Sommers</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>

## **The Legend of the Dogwood Tree**

In Jesus time, the dogwood grew  
To a stately size and a lovely hue.

'Twas strong & firm it's branches interwoven  
For the cross of Christ its timbers were chosen.

Seeing the distress at this use of their wood  
Christ made a promise which still holds good:

"Never again shall the dogwood grow  
Large enough to be used so

Slender & twisted, it shall be  
With blossoms like the cross for all to see.

As blood stains the petals marked in brown  
The blossom's center wears a thorny crown.

All who see it will remember Me  
Crucified on a cross from the dogwood tree.

Cherished and protected this tree shall be  
A reminder to all of My agony."

- Unknown

### Matthew 4:1-11:

"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. The tempter came to Him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took Him to the holy city and had Him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw Yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command His angels concerning You, and they will lift You up in their hands, so that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'" Then the devil left Him, and angels came and attended Him."

## YOU TOOK MY PLACE!

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

"The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and His appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on His hands and on His sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed Him and called out, "What happened to you?"

The visitor replied, as His hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from His eye, "I took your place!"

### The Nail

-by Laurene H. Bell

The nail is used for many things, A useful securing tool;  
A hammer is taken by the hand and drives it, that's the rule.

A nail is needed when you build, It's a necessary thing.  
It was also used over two thousand years ago to hang upon a tree, the King.

He took the pain and suffering for all mankind, you see.  
Yet He took the torture just for you, and He took it just for me.

You cannot keep a good man down, through the years many have said.  
He went down a man, and rose a King To deliver the spiritually dead.

He is on the throne At God's right hand. The First, the Last, The Great I Am.

No nail, no hammer can touch Him now-The mighty King on high.  
What He built is forevermore, Salvation for you and I.

So when you see a simple nail with it's sharpened end, And need to build or repair,  
Lift up your eyes, your heart and mind and thank Him with a prayer.

# Happy Birthday

Mar	4	Garrett Skinner
Mar	9	Bonnie Eckhart
Mar	11	Ruth St. John
Mar	13	Lucas Finch
Mar	15	Vi Halder
Mar	15	Joanne Henley
Mar	18	Pam Kirkland
Mar	20	Deb Beltz
Mar	22	Danny Sommers
Mar	22	Stacy Sommers
Mar	24	Patrick Douglas
Mar	27	Sarah Collins
Mar	29	Hainsley Casey
Mar	29	Kenzie Babcock
Apr	1	Emily Biljum
Apr	6	Zane Ivey
Apr	10	Jenny Markos
Apr	13	Ruth Paschen
Apr	14	Reed Goodman
Apr	16	Charity Gary
Apr	19	Don St. John
Apr	24	Stacey Goodman
Apr	30	Katherine (Anthony) Rogers

## UPDATE!!!



Get ready to jump back into some fun exercise and wonderful fellowship! **CBC Movers** are excited to be back in action on Saturday, March 14 at 9:00 AM. Just bring yourself—everything you need will be provided. We can't wait to move, laugh, and enjoy great fellowship together!

## Happy Anniversary

**Mar 11 Michael Meng & Angela Sommers**

**Apr 4 Rick & Dawn Frey #45**

**Apr 5 Roger & Joy Sommers #30**

### **Lent Scriptures for Renewal**

[James 4:8](#): "Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

[1 Peter 5:6-7](#): "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

[Psalm 30:5](#): "...weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."

# MARCH 2026

Sunday		Mon.		Tue.		Wed.		Thu.		Fri.		Saturday	
1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
Communion Sunday & 2nd Sunday of Lent				Relay for Life Meeting, 6:30 pm		Bible Study 10 AM		Zoom Bible Study 6 pm				Men's Breakfast 8:00 am Spring Forward 1 hour tonight!	
8		9		10		11		12		13		14	
Third Sunday of Lent						Bible Study 10 AM Martha Circle 6 pm		Zoom Bible Study 6 pm				CBC MOVERS 9:00 am	
15		16		17		18		19		20		21	
4th Sunday of Lent				St Patrick's Day Relay for Life Meeting, 6:30 pm		Bible Study 10 AM Family Night Potluck 6 PM		Zoom Bible Study 6 pm					
22		23		24		25		26		27		28	
5th Sunday of Lent						Bible Study 10 AM		Zoom Bible Study 6 pm					
29		30		31		4/1		4/2		4/3		4/4	
Palm Sunday & Brunch! Bake Sale Holy Week						Passover Begins		Maundy Thursday Service, 5 pm at 1st Pres, downtown BC		Good Friday Service, 5:30 pm at CBC		Men's Breakfast 8:00 am	

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**Starts Sunday,  
3/8/2026**

