

WillYouLoveHim Ministries (WYLH.org) Summary of The Medical Account of The Impalement of The Mashiach

According to various sources online, there was an article titled *“The Medical Account of the Crucifixion of Christ”* written by a doctor named Dr. C. Truman Davis. In this document, WillYouLoveHim Ministries is summarizing what we have learned by reading the article written by Dr. C. Truman Davis and only providing partial quotes of the original article. This document you are reading here is **NOT** the full original article written by Dr. C. Truman Davis; but, rather, this document is a shortened summary of it instead.

The source that I found for the article I am summarizing states the *“article was originally entitled “The Medical Account of the Crucifixion of Christ” and was written by Dr. C. Truman Davis and published in Arizona Medicine in 03/1965 by the Arizona Medical Association. It was re-printed in Wine Magazine in 04/1982.”*

I have not actually verified the original source of the article, nor have I verified for certain who Dr. C. Truman Davis is either. However, I am summarizing this article on the assumption that the source and the person who wrote it are as stated in the previous paragraph. It seems difficult to research Dr. C. Truman Davis because when I search for him online what I find are copies of the article he wrote instead. I’m also not sure where or how to find the copy of the original from the Arizona Medical Association, so I have not verified that as the original source – but I am assuming this information is correct. I have not actually done my own research on this matter. I heard about the article growing up in the church I was raised in, and went searching for it online as an adult. There are many, many websites with a copy of the article. I have not verified if all the websites with a copy of the article are identical or have differences.

In general, it seems that the article Dr. C. Truman Davis wrote discusses the suffering and death of Yahushua the Anointed from a medical perspective. When I read the article, it seems to be helping individuals to understand the magnitude of the suffering that our King went through for us, and also seems to seek to explain it from a modern medical perspective. The article uses words such as “crucifixion” and “cross”. Instead of using those words to explain things, I will be using words such as “impalement” and “stake”. The article also discusses some things that I will not be summarizing on at all. I am only going to be focusing on some parts of the article.

I use to provide a copy of the article here on WYLH.org, but I decided that it is better for me, instead, to write a summary of the article and share my thoughts regarding it in this document instead. For those who are interested, you can easily search online for *“Dr. C. Truman Davis”* and you will find various copies of the article online if you are interested in reading it for yourself. This document, however, is simply a summary written by WillYouLoveHim Ministries.

The article states that it covers from Gethsemane, through Yahushua’s trial, scourging, and *“His path along the Via Dolorosa, to his last dying hours”* on the stake. The phrase “Via Dolorosa” was mysterious to me, so I looked it up online. Online sources state that the phrase “Via Dolorosa” is a Latin phrase meaning “Way of Grief”, or “Way of Sorrow”

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or "Way of Suffering", or "Painful Way" (Latin was the language of the Romans). Some people use this Latin phrase, "Via Dolorosa", to refer to the route that Yahushua walked to His impalement. I haven't studied these geographical things in enough detail to have any comments on what others say online about the route. But I know one thing, I am thankful that He walked that route for me, wherever it was.

Isaiah 53:1-4 - Who has believed our report? And to whom was the arm of Yahweh revealed? ² For He grew up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or splendour that we should look upon Him, nor appearance that we should desire Him - ³ despised and rejected by men, a man of pains and knowing sickness. And as one from whom the face is hidden, being despised, and we did not consider Him. ⁴ Truly, He has borne our sicknesses and carried our pains. Yet we reckoned Him stricken, smitten by Elohiym, and afflicted.

The original article didn't quote verses, but I may in this summary as seems appropriate.

The doctor then talks about his view on the practice of impalement itself. He says that the practice of impalement was first done by the Persians and that "*Alexander and his generals brought it back to the Mediterranean world — to Egypt and to Carthage*". The article also states that "*the Romans apparently learned the practice from the Carthaginians*". I haven't confirmed any of this information. You may want to do your own research on this to verify if this information is correct or not. I haven't yet had time to research this topic in detail as there are many ministry needs.

The article discusses more things about the practice of impalement and the shape of the stake, which they refer to as a "cross", but I don't want to focus on that in this summary because I don't claim to know for certain what the correct view is, whether it is a "cross" or a "stake". I don't want to pretend that I've researched this subject in depth when in reality I have not yet done so.

Although there are various depictions of nails through the palms, the article states that, "*Historical Roman accounts and experimental work have established that the nails were driven between the small bones of the wrists (radius and ulna) and not through the palms. Nails driven through the palms will strip out between the fingers when made to support the weight of the human body.*" The article states that this "*misconception may have come about through a misunderstanding*" of Yahushua's words to T'oma (Thomas) in John 20:27 to observe/see his hands. I learned this in the church I grew up in also, but the article states that, "*Anatomists, both modern and ancient, have always considered the wrist as part of the hand.*" So that would mean any reference to the "hand" would include not just the palm and fingers but also the wrist it seems.

If you look at the Ancient Hebrew letter "Yad" (pronounced as "Yod" or "Yud" in Modern Hebrew), you will see a pictograph in the Ancient Hebrew of an arm and hand. Interestingly, "Yad" is also the Hebrew word for "Hand". Could it be that "hand" also included the arm or at least part of the arm as well? Perhaps. I don't know. I'm no

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expert on this. I'm just sharing information for people to be aware of. Also, in Matthew 27:37, Mark 15:26, Luke 23:38, and John 19:19 it mentions something written and put above him. The article calls the object it was written on a "titulus". However, an online source says that a "titulus" is the Latin word for "inscription" or "label".

The article states that the suffering of Yahushua began in Gethsemane. We can confirm this in Matthew 26:36 and Mark 14:32. In Luke 22:44 it is written:

Luke 22:44 - And being in agony, He was praying more earnestly. And His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

The article informs us that, *"Though very rare, the phenomenon of Hematidrosis, or bloody sweat, is well documented."* It goes on to say that *"Under great emotional stress",* like what Yahushua suffered, *"tiny capillaries in the sweat glands can break, thus mixing blood with sweat. This process might well have produced marked weakness and possible shock."* I think sometimes when we read through the Scriptures we don't always realize the gravity and seriousness at all times of what we are reading. This is an example where we can stop at these verses for more than a moment and meditate on them and realize the seriousness of what Yahushua went through, including how it was so distressing for Him that he was sweating blood. We can see it was, indeed, distressing because the verse right before this, it is written:

Luke 22:43 - And there appeared a messenger from sky to Him, strengthening Him.

Even Yahushua, who is perfect and never once sinned, even He needed to be strengthened to get through what He was going through. It was truly horrific. And He did it all for me, for you, because that's how much he loves you. Not only that, but this should set our hearts in the right place, that whatever we encounter in life, we can say, as the song goes, "It is well with my soul." Whatever we go through is nothing compared to what He did for us, and He was perfect and did not deserve any of it. This should be a motivator for us, to not grow weary in doing good, to not give up, to never give in, to never quit, to get back up again no matter what the circumstances, follow in the footsteps of our King Yahushua the Anointed to do the ministry Yahweh has called us to, to forgive one another, let the past go, and love one another as He loved us.

Next, the article brings up the physical trauma of being struck across the face, blindfolded, mocked, taunted, spat upon, and struck and beaten more. The article points out this would have left Yahushua battered, bruised, dehydrated, and exhausted in the morning from a sleepless night. The article states that Yahushua was *"taken across the Praetorium of the Fortress Antonia, the seat of government of the Procurator of Judea, Pontius Pilate"*. An online source states that the word "Praetorium" is a Latin word referring to a "general's tent" and is a word derived from the name of one of the chief Roman magistrates, the "praetor". Regarding the "Fortress Antonia", an online source states that this was a military barracks built by Herod some time before 31 BC. I

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can't confirm if this is definitely where Yahushua was taken to, but I'm sharing this information just so others are aware of what the article states.

After going to Herod and being mocked (Luke 23:11), Yahushua was sent back to Pilate. It was then, in response to the cries of the mob, that Pilate ordered Barabbas released and handed over Yahushua to whipping/scourging and impalement.

The article states that scourging was done by having a prisoner stripped of his clothing and *"His hands tied to a post above His head"*. There is no way to know how long or how many whips were given. The article discusses that the whip would have had *"several heavy, leather thongs with two small balls of lead attached near the ends of each"* – I have not researched this information but nevertheless we know whatever Yahushua went through He did it for us because He loved us. These are sobering thoughts. The article states that the *"heavy whip is brought down with full force again and again across" the "shoulders, back, and legs"*. The Scriptures do not describe it in this level of detail, but I think the point of the article is to try to help us realize the brutality and suffering of such punishment even as the whipping before the impalement which Yahushua endured on our behalf. The article describes the whipping more, about how the whip would first cut through the skin, then eventually deeper into the tissues below the skin, causing bleeding from *"the capillaries and veins of the skin, and finally"*, it states, *"arterial bleeding from vessels in the underlying muscles"*.

It states bruising would eventually happen too and the bruises would be eventually broken open as well and that eventually the skin on the back would be *"hanging in long ribbons and the entire area is an unrecognizable mass of torn, bleeding tissue"*.

The article also talks about the beating happening until the prisoner would be near death and describes other details that are hard for me to even read let alone summarize. If the article is correct in how it is described, the whipping sounds very horrendous and brutal.

Matthew 27:28-30 - And having stripped Him, they put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹ And plaiting a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they kneeled down before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Greetings, Sovereign of the Yehudim!" ³⁰ And spitting on Him they took the reed and struck Him on the head.

The article talks about the crown of thorns, stating, *"Again there is copious bleeding, the scalp being one of the most vascular areas of the body."* The article also says the striking on the head would drive the thorns deeper into the scalp.

Matthew 27:31 - And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, then put His own garments on Him, and led Him away to be impaled.

The article says that the robe being taken off would cause more bleeding. It states, *"Already having adhered to the clots of blood and serum in the wounds, its removal"*

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causes excruciating pain just as in the careless removal of a surgical bandage, and almost as though He were again being whipped the wounds once more begin to bleed."

The article discusses the walk to be impaled, the weight of the stake, the pain if one were to fall while holding it on their shoulders, and how his muscles would have been pushed already beyond their endurance and how someone else was asked to carry the stake for him.

Matthew 27:32 - And as they were going out, they found a man of Cyrene, Shim'on by name - they compelled him to bear His stake.

The article then describes the impalement in more detail than what we see in the scriptures. Not knowing for sure what to think of all this, I've decided not to go into the same level of details in this summary – but I am very thankful to Yahweh for His mercy.

The article describes how the weight on the nails would cause excruciating pain from the fingers to the brain and pressure on the "*median nerves*". When pushing up for air, the article states this would cause weight to be placed on the feet and, "*searing agony of the nail tearing through the nerves between the metatarsal bones of the feet*".

The article goes on to state, "*At this point, as the arms fatigue, great waves of cramps sweep over the muscles, knotting them in deep, relentless, throbbing pain. With these cramps comes the inability to push Himself upward. Hanging by his arms, the pectoral muscles are paralyzed and the intercostal muscles are unable to act. Air can be drawn into the lungs, but cannot be exhaled.*"

The article states, "*Finally, carbon dioxide builds up in the lungs and in the blood stream and the cramps partially subside. Spasmodically, he is able to push Himself upward to exhale and bring in the life-giving oxygen.*"

The article states it is during those moments of pushing himself up that he would have spoken the words he spoke while on the stake.

Luke 23:34 - And Yahushua said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.

Luke 23:43 - And Yahushua said to him, "Truly, I say to you today, you shall be with Me in Paradise."

John 19:26-28 - Then Yahushua, seeing His mother and the taught one whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, see your son!" ²⁷ Then to the taught one He said, "See, your mother!" And from that hour that taught one took her to his own home. ²⁸ After this, Yahushua, knowing that all had been accomplished, in order that the Scripture might be accomplished, said, "I thirst!"

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Mark 15:34 - And at the ninth hour Yahushua cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lamah shevaqtani?" which is translated, "My El, My El, why have You forsaken Me?"

John 19:30 - So when Yahushua took the sour wine He said, "It has been accomplished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

The article states, *"Hours of limitless pain, cycles of twisting, joint-rending cramps, intermittent partial asphyxiation, searing pain where tissue is torn from His lacerated back as He moves up and down"*.

The article states, "Then another agony begins... A terrible crushing pain deep in the chest as the pericardium slowly fills with serum and begins to compress the heart. One remembers again the 22nd Psalm, the 14th verse: "I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels." It is now almost over. The loss of tissue fluids has reached a critical level; the compressed heart is struggling to pump heavy, thick, sluggish blood into the tissue; the tortured lungs are making a frantic effort to gasp in small gulps of air. The markedly dehydrated tissues send their flood of stimuli to the brain."

The article states, *"One remembers another verse from the prophetic 22nd Psalm: "My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou has brought me into the dust of death."*

The article discusses more detail of the drink offered to him not mentioned here

Luke 23:46 - And crying out with a loud voice, Yahushua said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." And having said this, He breathed His last.

The article states that He would have used "one last surge of strength" to press upon his feet one last time and get a breath to speak these words before dying.

John 19:34 - But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and instantly blood and water came out.

They never broke Yahushua's legs because he was already dead when they came to him, so they did this instead. Also, not breaking his bones is part of fulfilling scripture:

John 19:36 - For this took place in order for the Scripture to be filled: "Not one of His bones shall be broken."

Psalms 34:20 - He is guarding all his bones; Not one of them is broken.

I'm not sure if there are other verses related to this, but that's what I found when I went searching just now to find out what scripture was fulfilled by this.

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Also, we see the similarity to the Passover laws, because it is written:

Exodus 12:46 - "It is eaten in one house, you are not to take any of the flesh outside the house, nor are you to break any bone of it.

When the soldier pierced his side, the article states, *"there was an escape of water fluid from the sac surrounding the heart, giving postmortem evidence"* and it states that Yahushua *"died not the usual"* impalement *"death by suffocation, but of heart failure due to shock and constriction of the heart by fluid in the pericardium."*

Truly we can see that Yahushua went through a very horrendous, painful day of grief and suffering on our behalf. But one day, He will rule this world for a thousand years. May we walk worthily of the calling to which we are called to (Ephesians 4:1, 1 Thessalonians 2:12) and always be thankful, grateful, and give the esteem and reverence due to Yahweh and His Son Yahushua for all they have done for us. May Yahweh help us to be counted worthy to escape all that is about to occur, and to stand before the Son of Adam (Luke 21:36), in the Name of Yahushua HaMashiach, Amein.