

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

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A Different Kind of Plague

Jason Wright

For we have found this man a plague, a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes (Acts 24:5). Who is the **WE** and this **MAN** in the text and why was he considered a **PLAGUE**?

The Lord's church is growing in number and in faith. It is spreading just as Jesus said it would in Acts 1:8. Paul is the man defending himself before the Roman governor in Caesarea. His accusers are Ananias, the elders, and Tertullus. They were all presenting their cases before Felix the governor. As Tertullus offers false accusations against Paul, in verse five he calls Paul **a plague**.

When I think of a plague, I can't help but think of Exodus 7-11 and the plagues of darkness and frogs and flies and lice and hail. All 10 of them fell on God's enemies, while His people were left untouched. So, how could the Apostle Paul be considered a plague? What was he doing that was so annoying and destructive?

Here are the accusations. Paul was being connected to the Nazarenes. A place considered to be a despised and lowly place. **Could anything good come from Nazareth?** (Jn. 1:46) Tertullus suggested Paul's bad reputation stretched throughout the Roman Empire. Also, there were accusations of **profaning the temple**. The orator offered no evidence of this charge. Perhaps, he was repeating rumors from Acts 21.

So, what was Paul guilty of? Was he politically dangerous? Was he trying to destroy the Old Law? Remember, back in Acts 21, the elders in Jerusalem told Paul that he was being accused of **teaching all the Jews among the Gentiles to forsake Moses and they should not circumcise their children and to ignore Jewish customs**. Of course, Paul taught the Gospel but believed in the Old Law and the prophets (Acts 24:15). So, what was he really guilty of? In Acts 24:15, we are told, **I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead (1 Cor. 15), both of the just and the unjust**.

Tertullus called Christianity the **sect of the Nazarenes**; Paul called it **The Way**. Paul would teach the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus with all boldness and courage, and because of this, he was considered a plague. It would eventually cost him his life.

How much attention do we give to the world and their perception of Christianity? Hopefully, a lot! But not to the point of compromise. We are the light in a dark world. We are meant to shine not meant to be hidden. We are to teach and share and seek and save. Paul taught and defended the greatest message ever delivered, and as a result, he was a different kind of plague. Regardless of what the world calls us, God has called us to show people the way to Heaven thru Jesus.



IT IS FINISHED

John 19:30

I. He has Revealed Himself

- A. By miracles- John 3:2, 5:36, 20:30-31
- B. By fulfilling prophecy- Matthew 5:17-18, Luke 24:44, John 19:28 (Psalm 69:21), John 19:29 (Exodus 12:21-22)

II. He has Manifested Love

- A. By His incarnation- John 1:1,17:5, Philippians 2:5-11
- B. By His sacrifice- Romans 5:6-11, 1 John 4:9-10

III. He has Secured Our Salvation

- A. He has redeemed, reconciled, justified, and sanctified us- Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:20-23, Romans 5:9, Hebrews 10:10, 1 Peter 2:5,9
- B. He provides the victory over death- Hebrews 2:14, Romans 5:12-21, 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

John 19:28-30

E I I V R S C T D I E F N L U E U I
 N H L V I I I M U I L L H I S E S A
 G U E S E P D E V I E C E R E T F A
 U T I N E L D E L L I F L U F O D T
 I G S H W N U M C G O E E U S K U H
 S P I D E H S I L P M O C C A P R I
 D L H G S L P O S T E I R V C U U R
 O D S F U M O R P S S S J E S U S S
 Y G N I W O N K T I R I P S S I U T
 D I D R A O G O G O P O S S Y H O V
 E H S N O F E E F U L L D E L L I F
 L D T L N D I G E R B D E L T G F E
 O U P L N I S O R H R P G R U F S I
 V S I E R U T P I R C S S S P I O P
 C L N G N I W O B D Y E N I W N L I
 G E C D J A P O E V E S H W H I T N
 A C V I B O S U O O I E E L O S S S
 V L O N D I E O O J M U U S M H S B
 E I L L E T T R U O S S E S H E A D
 P D S P F U M O U T H I N G S D T T

AFTER
 JESUS
 KNOWING
 THINGS
 ACCOMPLISHED
 SCRIPTURE
 FULFILLED
 THIRST
 VESSEL
 FULL
 SOUR
 WINE
 FILLED
 SPONGE
 HYSSOP
 MOUTH
 RECEIVED
 FINISHED
 BOWING
 HEAD
 GAVE
 SPIRIT

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"
²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth.
³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 971 Restore My Soul (Vs. 1, 3)

Prayer

Song: 12 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed (Vs. 1, 2, 5 refrain at end)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 572 Send the Light (Vs. 1, 4)

Song: 301 I Will Sing the Wondrous Story (Vs. 1, 2, 5)

Scripture Reading: John 19:28-30

Sermon

Song: 23 All Things Are Ready

Song: 924 I Am Mine No More

Prayer

John 19:28-30 (NKJV)

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23