

Yeshua Was Crushed for Our Iniquities

I today's *Torah* Portion Scripture states: "...for anyone hanged is a curse of God..." (Deut. 21:23) Having a dead body placed on public display, even if only during daylight hours, was the highest form of disgrace in the Biblical economy. Through it the person was made a public spectacle as a sinner. In addition, the fact that they were cursed of God because of their sin could no longer be hidden.

The Roman form of crucifixion was not for the same purpose as this mitzvah of hanging the dead body of a criminal on a tree. Their form of capital punishment, involved the criminal being hung while still alive. This more cruel method resulted in a slow and very painful death, which could take days. Passers-by could hear and see the victim squirming and gasping in agony.

The *B^erit Chadasha* (New/Renewed Covenant) equates the mitzvah of Deut. 21:22-23 to what *Yeshua HaMashiach* did for us when it states: "¹³ Messiah liberated us from Torah's curse, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" (Galatians 3:13). Therefore *Yeshua* is our curse bearer. We too were once sinners and our sin separated us from God. God cannot look upon sin. Isaiah said: "Rather, your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God. Your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). As sinners we were deserving of death. Yes, we deserved to be accursed of God.

But God did not want to leave us that way: "But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he has committed, and keep all My statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die" (Eze. 18:21). *Yeshua* bore the curse of our sin upon Himself. He became accursed for us that we might live.

You may think that you are righteous because you attend church services. You may think that you are not a sinner because of your good works. After all you may be saying to yourself, "I never killed anyone, I do not sell drugs, and I am basically a good person." However, *Adonai* tells us in Scripture that: "For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteousness is like a filthy garment, and all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities carry us away, like the wind" (Isaiah 64:6) and ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).

There is nothing you can do to save yourself or to remove your sins from yourself. Because of your sin you are worthy of death and destined to be accursed. The only one way for your sins to be paid for:

³He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief,
One from whom people hide their faces. He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.^[b]

⁴Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our pains.

Yet we esteemed Him stricken, struck by God, and afflicted.

⁵But He was pierced because of our transgressions, crushed because of our iniquities. The chastisement for our shalom was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

⁶We all like sheep have gone astray. Each of us turned to his own way.

So *Adonai* has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:3-6).

Receive *Yeshua* as your personal savior. Invite Him into your life today. He is *The Redeemer of Israel*.