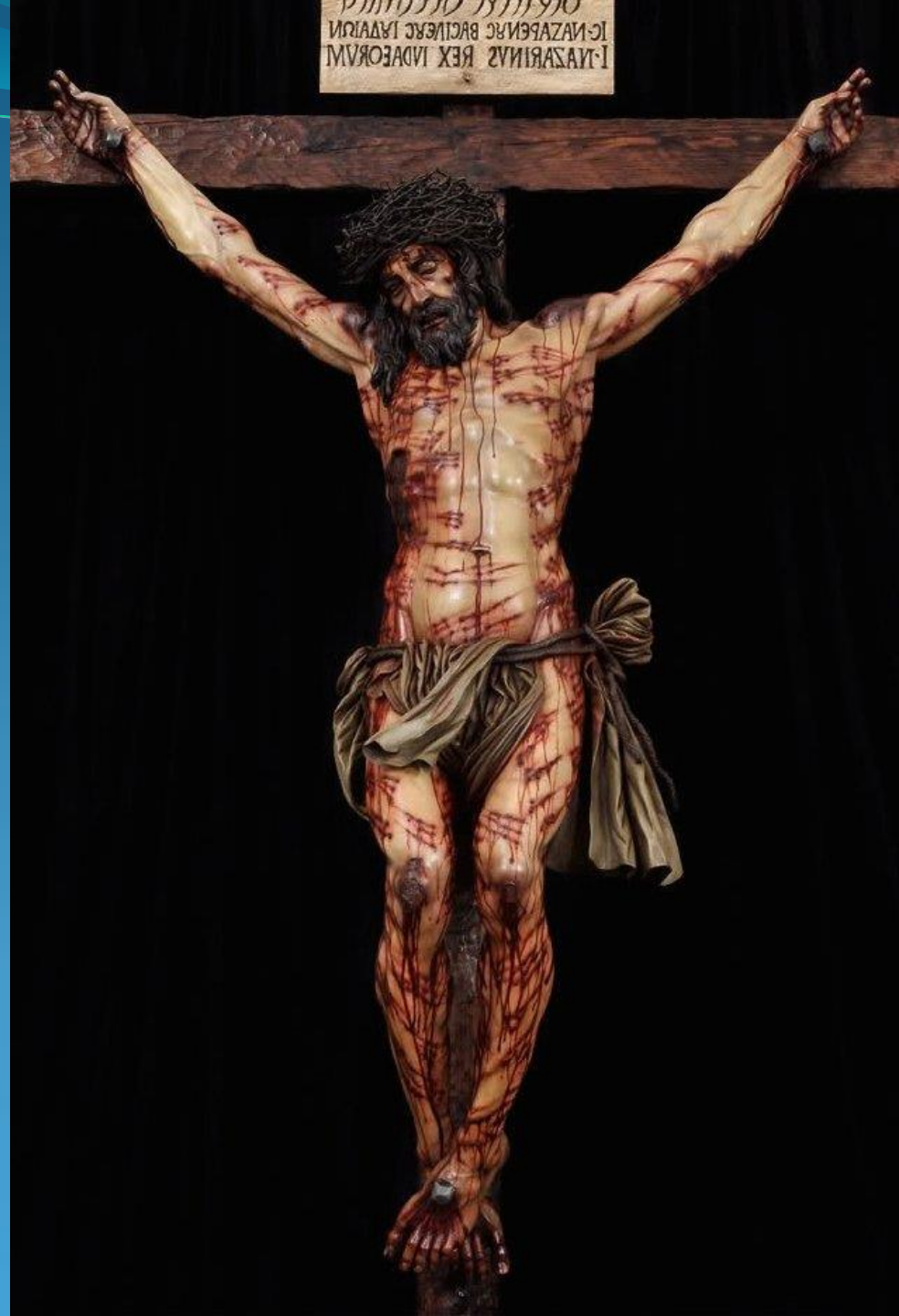


Medical and
Moral Aspects
Of The
Crucifixion!
Hebrews
6:1-6



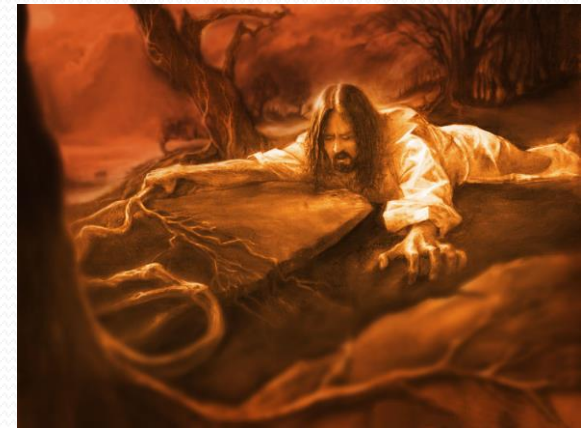
Philippians 2:5-8

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus; Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.....”

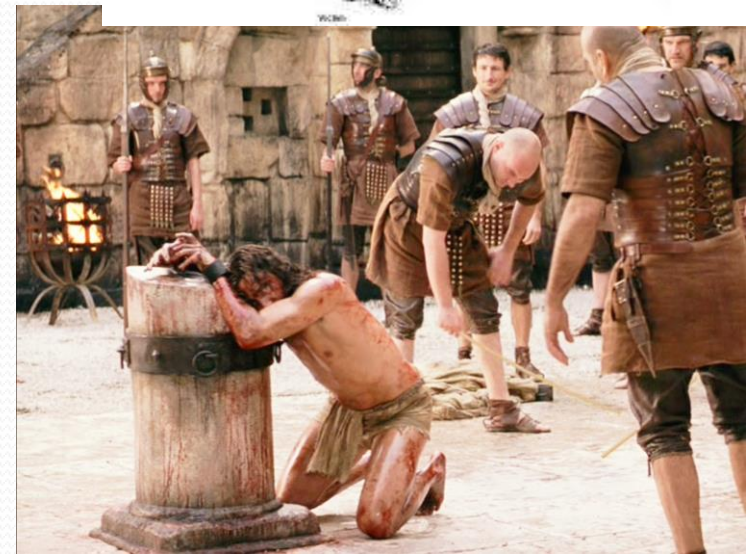
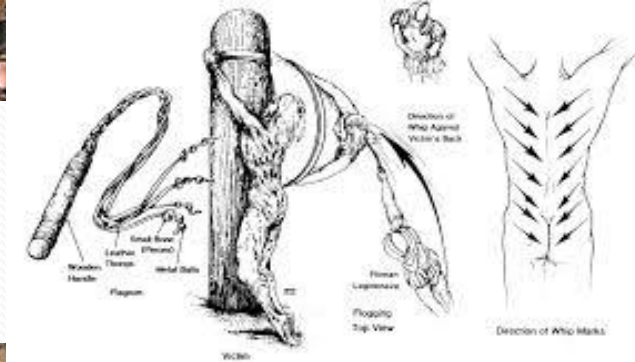
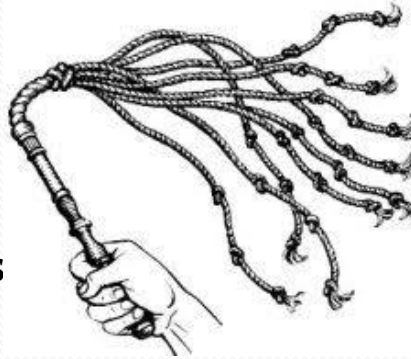
..... *“And being found in fashion as a man became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”*

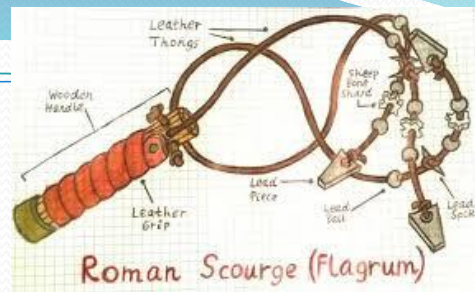
- Jesus fell on His face and prayed, in the Garden of Gethsemane, for the cup of suffering to be lifted
Matthew 26:39-42
- He experienced “Hematodrosis” (blood-sweat) while praying
Luke 22:44
- With a Crown of Thorns, a reed in hand, and a scarlet robe, they mocked Jesus and bowed before Him



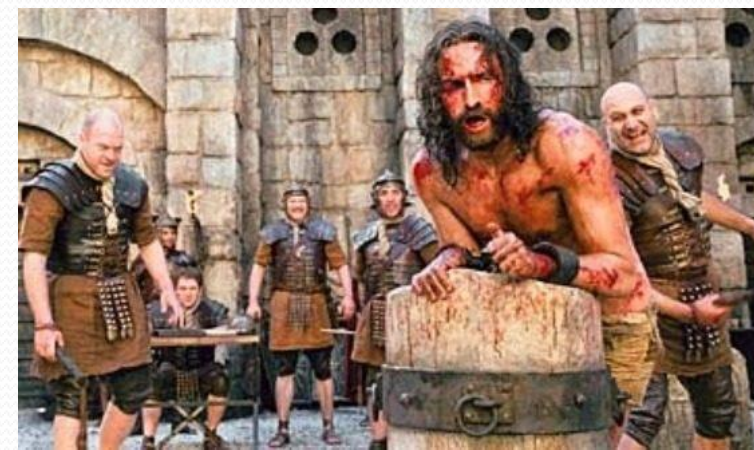
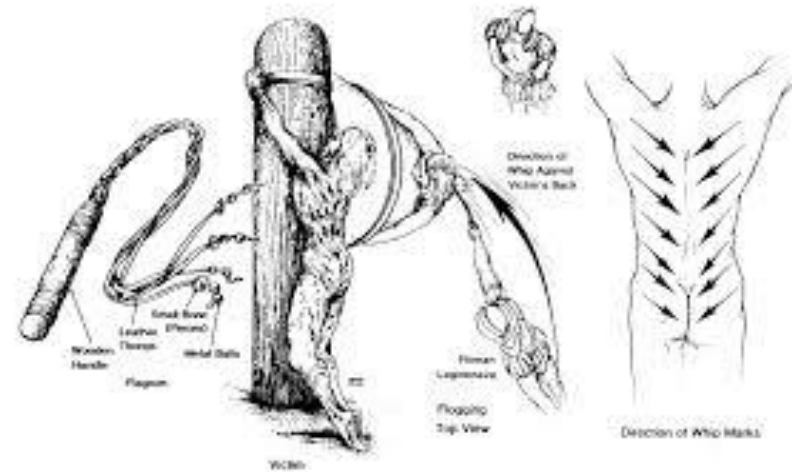
The Scourging!

- Before every Roman execution, flogging or scourging was a legal preliminary
- Usually, a short whip with several thongs with pieces of sharp iron, sheep bone and iron balls were spaced carefully on several straps
- The back, buttocks and legs were beaten by two soldiers,
- The severity of the beatings was based on the soldier's disposition
- This was intended to weaken the victim to a state just before collapse or death





- With repeated strikes by the soldiers, the sheep bones and sharp iron pieces from the whip would tear a man's tissues and muscles and produce quivering ribbons of bleeding flesh (39 lashes or more)
- Pain and blood loss would set the stage for circulatory shock in the victim.
- The extent of blood loss from scourging may well have determined how long one would survive the cross (tremendous bleeding)
- Survival was inversely proportional to the length of the scourging period



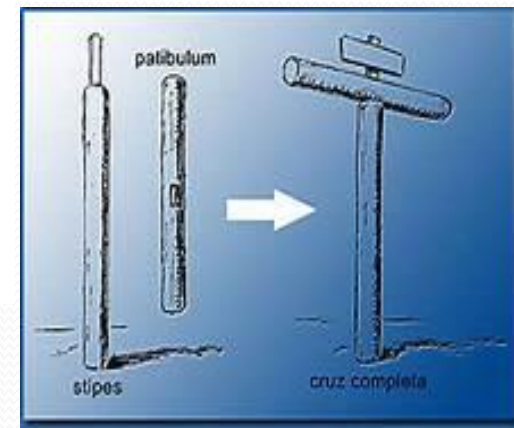
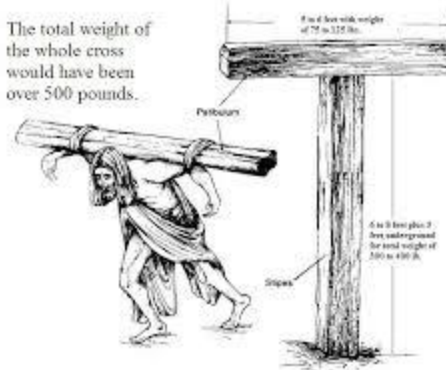
The Crucifixion

- This form of execution was thought to first begin among the Persians
- Although not invented by the Romans, they perfected it as a form of torture, or capital punishment, that was designed to produce a slow death with maximum pain and suffering
- It was a cruel and disgraceful way to die, usually reserved for slaves, foreigners insurrectionists, and violent criminals

Carrying the Cross

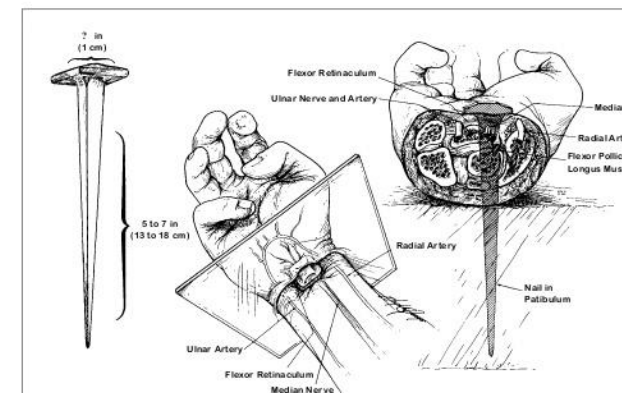
- Since the weight of the Cross was well over 300 lbs., the Patibulum or crossbar was usually placed across the victim's neck and balanced then tied on His shoulders and He would carry it to the place of execution (Simon of Cyrene helped him)
- One soldier would carry the sign (titulus) showing the victim's name and crime, later to be hung above his head
"THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS"
Matthew 27:37

The total weight of the whole cross would have been over 500 pounds.



Nails to the Hands and Feet!

- Once He reached Golgotha by law, they offered Him an analgesic, Mark 15:23, *“Then they gave Him wine mixed with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it.”*
- The victim was then thrown to the ground on His back and His hands, nailed to the crossbar, rather than tied (preference of the Romans)
- Nails were driven between the two rows of carpal bone or between the radius and the carpal bones, tearing and bringing excruciating pain to the median nerve of the hand



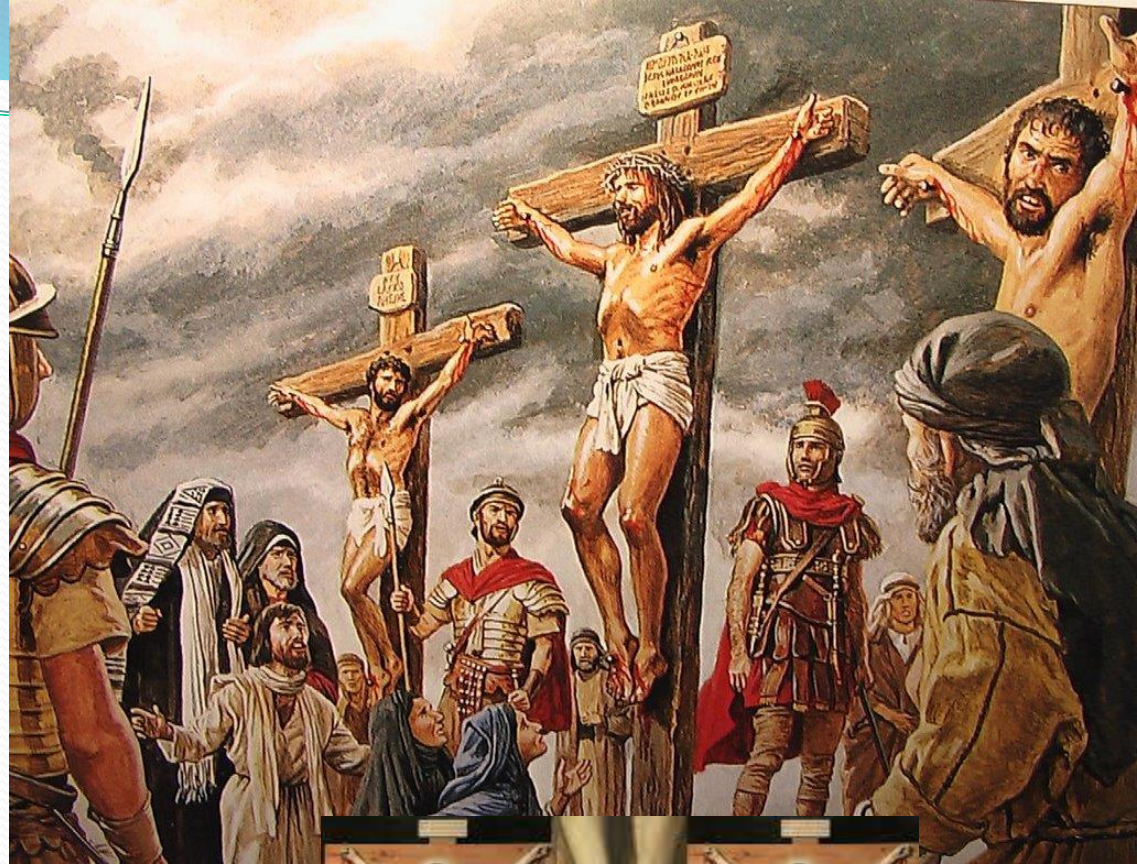
Nails To The Hands And Feet!

- Tombs excavated of those crucified, in Roman history suggest that their preference was to use nails rather than tying the victims limbs to the wood



• A major obstacle on the cross was ***trying to breathe!*** You couldn't exhale properly because your body's weight on the outstretched arms would fix your muscles in the inhalation state and hinder passive exhalation, so breathing was shallow

• To try to breathe well, one would have to push himself up with his feet, precipitating pain from the spikes there. To ease that pain the victim would let himself down on the spikes, but causing ***excruciating pain in his wrist from spikes there (remember, his back is raw)***



The Cause Of Death From Crucifixion Was Multi-factorial

- The fact that He could not carry the Patibulum suggested significant weakness after the flogging (the Cyrenian helped)
- Circulatory shock from dehydration and volume loss
- Exhaustion Asphyxia (couldn't breathe)
- He spoke seven times while on the cross, most likely during periods of exhalation, which must have been difficult
- Length of survival was 3 or 4 hours, up to 3 or 4 days
- Soldiers could hasten death by breaking the legs; scripture says that Jesus died before they did that
John 19:32-33

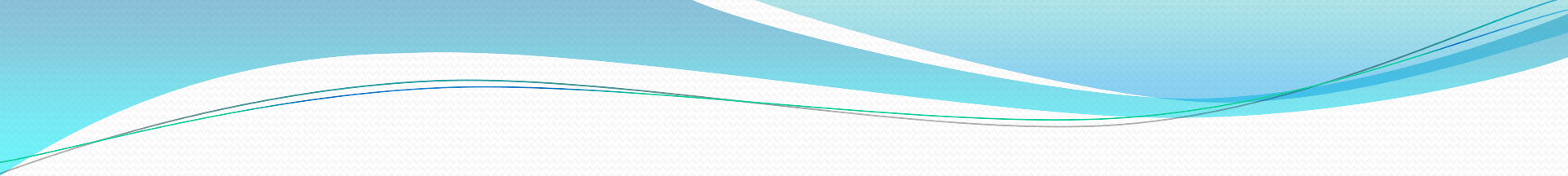


Why the Crucifixion?

“Surely he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and, afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

Isaiah 53:5



... “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid in him the iniquity of us all.”

Isaiah 53:6

Can The Horrors Of The Crucifixion Be Repeated Today?

Hebrews 6:1-6

*“Therefore Leaving the principles of the doctrine
of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying
again the foundation of repentance
from dead works,
Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of the laying on
of hands, and of the resurrection of the dead,
and of eternal judgment.
And this will we do, if God permit.*

Hebrews 6:1-6

..... For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come”

..... If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify unto themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”

HOW CAN WE MAKE CHRIST, IN OUR HEARTS, GO THROUGH THE SAME EXPERIENCE OF THE CRUCIFIXION?

ANSWER: When We Adopt The Same Attitude As His Persecutors!

The Mindset Of Refusing To Grow Spiritually Is What Got Jesus Crucified!

- The attitude of “*Stagnation*” (*Jews were this way*)
- The attitude of going back to my worldly ways, “*my ways are better than God’s ways for me*” (*no growth in virtue, knowledge, temperance...*) 2Peter 1:5-10

A Companion scripture is Hebrews 10:29-30

- The attitude of Pride and Arrogance toward Jesus and His Church
- The Attitude of “*not admitting my own errors*”
“*I don’t say I’m sorry!*” (“*Some scriptures don’t apply to me and my longevity in religion!*”)
“*What would the people think of me if I apologized?*”

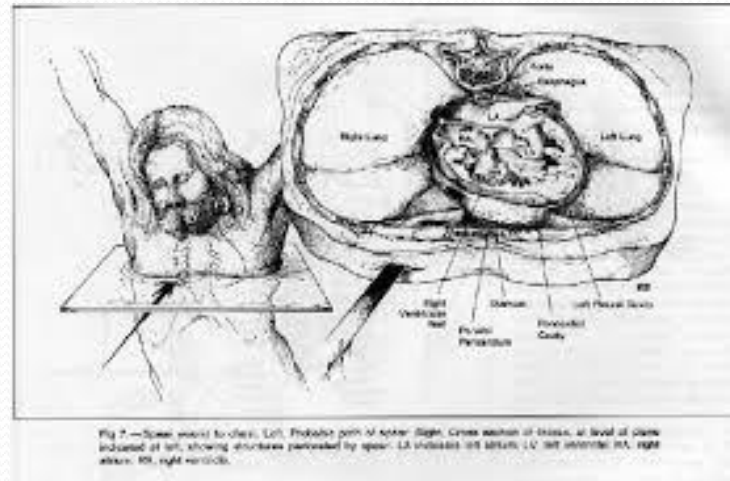
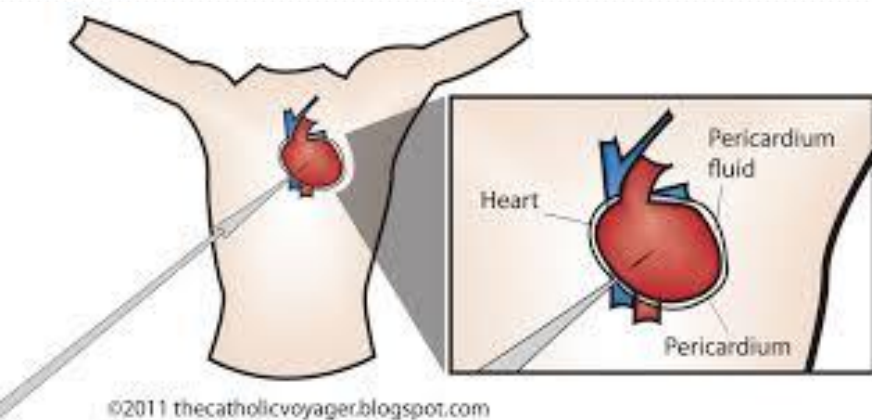


**Christians Must Never Forget
That Going Back To Lives Of Sin
and Stagnation**

***Causes the
Re-Crucifixion
of Christ!***

John 19:34

“But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.”



Where are Blood and Water Together?

Around The Heart!

The Pericardium, and Its Pleural (Water-Like) Fluid

Isn't it Wonderful:

***The Blood And Water Are
Still Available Today***

For You

Through Water Baptism!

***(Where You Contact The
Blood Of Jesus Christ)***

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38