

Slides for LJRT 27 The Crucifixion *Part 1* – up to Midday

51 The Tree, the Stake, the Cross, to Crucify, to Impale *also to Bear and to Bring or to Lead*

Tree The **Greek** word ξύλων ‘xulōn’ which means a **living tree**, a **stake**, stick or club *Luke 23:31 Strong’s G3586*

Bear φέρειν ‘pherein’ from ‘pherō’ which means to **bear**, carry, bring or lead *Luke 23:26 from Strong’s G5342*

Bring or Lead φέρουσιν ‘pherousin’ which also means to bear, carry, **bring** (brought) or **lead** (led) *Mark 15:22 from Strong’s G5342*

Cross This was transliterated into a new English word from the **Latin** word ‘**crux**’. A ‘**crux simplex**’ is a **single stake**, which was often used for the lowest criminals. In New Testament **Greek** it’s σταυρός ‘**stauros**’ a pole, **stake** or upright pale (a pointed fence post) *Strong’s G4716*

Crucify In **Greek** σταυρώω ‘**stauroō**’ meaning to **impale**, to **crucify** or to **drive stakes** *Strong’s G4717*

52 Three Stakes



*The possible crucifixion scene, with the crossbar being above Jesus’ head, containing the inscription in three languages: Greek, Latin and Hebrew. The actual word ‘**cross**’, meaning two pieces of wood crossed, e.g. † or X is found **nowhere** in the Bible relating to Jesus. The word ‘**stauros**’ means ‘stake’.*

*The cross symbol † is a **Chaldean** sign or mark of **pagan** origin, predating Christianity by around 1,000 years. It is linked to the dead Babylonian boy-god Tammuz. **Ezekiel 8:14** records the abomination of women weeping for him. **Constantine** made Christianity a state religion around **AD 320** and by **AD 431** crosses were fixed to church buildings.*

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The Inscription in Hebrew

The first letters of the four words in Hebrew on the crossbar at the top of Jesus' stake form an acrostic:

YHVH or YHWH (*Yahweh*)

ישוע הנצרי ומלך היהודים
 ה ו ה י

Reading right to left: *hey vav hey yod*

or left to right: *yod hey vav hey YHVH*

INTERPRETATION From the pictographic and numerical meaning of these three letters:

yod



*a closed hand
work, deed, to make*

hey

ה



*lifted hands
to behold, to reveal
No.5 GRACE*

vav

ו



*nail, tent peg
to hold, secure*

MEANING

Hands of grace, nailed in grace

54

When I Survey

1

When I survey the wondrous stake
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me
most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4

Were the whole realm of nature
mine,
That were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts 1674-1748