

Challenge

There was no Calvary

What???????

Christians write about Calvary.

They preach about Calvary.

They sing about Calvary.

Their salvation is in Calvary...

but it doesn't exist.

Why?

That's because there was no place called Calvary in ancient Jerusalem.

You can search all the ancient literature but you won't find it.



You won't even find it in the Bible

Shock Horror



Mark, Matthew and John all mention a location named **Golgotha** – not Calvary.

'Golgotha' according to them translates as “the place of the skull”.

And...

The gospels say that Golgotha is a Hebrew word.

But today, no one is certain if it was Hebrew, Aramaic or some mixture of the two.



So...

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Golgotha was a real place situated somewhere outside the walls of the 1st Century city of Jerusalem.

It was not far from a garden with the tombs of Jerusalem's elite.



Why Calvary then?

'Calvary' comes from the Latin word *calvaria* which translates as "skull".

The term wasn't in use in Jesus' day and no one at that time called the place where Christ died 'Calvary'.



Where did Calvary come from?

'Calvary' is Latin and first appeared in the late 4th Century when Jerome created the Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible.

From then on the word came into Christian use through the Roman Catholic organisation.



Conclusion:

Even though there was no place called 'Calvary', Jesus the Messiah definitely died outside of Jerusalem to pay the price for our sins and to eliminate our sin-nature.

So...

Challenge

What should we focus on?

Religious 'Calvary' or the work of redemption?





So, it's your challenge to come to grips with this information

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