

# Matthew 27:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull,

## Analysis

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**A place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull** (Γολγοθᾶ, ὁ ἐστιν Κρανίου Τόπος, Golgotha, ho estin Kraniou Topos)—Aramaic gulgalta, Hebrew gulgolet, Latin Calvaria. The name likely derives from the skull-like appearance of the rocky hill, though later tradition held that Adam's skull was buried there.

Death's place receives the Death-Defeater. Where skulls signify mortality, Jesus will crush the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15) and destroy death itself (1 Corinthians 15:26). The place of the skull becomes the birthplace of resurrection hope.

## Historical Context

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Golgotha was outside Jerusalem's walls (Hebrews 13:12), near a main road (Matthew 27:39) where executions served as public deterrents. The exact location is debated—tradition sites it at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, though the Garden Tomb is another possibility.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What is the significance of Jesus dying outside the city gates (Hebrews 13:11-13)?
2. How does the 'place of the skull' symbolically connect to Christ's victory over death?

## Interlinear Text

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Καὶ	ἐλθόντες	εἰς	Τόπος	λεγόμενος	Γολγοθᾶ	ὅς
And	when they were come	unto	a place	called	Golgotha	that
G2532	G2064	G1519	G5117	G3004	G1115	G3739
ἐστιν	λεγόμενος	Κρανίου	Τόπος			
is	called	of a skull	a place			
G2076	G3004	G2898	G5117			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Mark 15:34** (Parallel theme): And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

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