

**THE WOUNDS  
OF  
CHRIST**

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Isaiah 53:5 "*...he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities...*"

A medical pamphlet on wounds listed six types of wounds. Jesus Christ suffered all six during His crucifixion.

1. The contused wound (a contusion) is a wound produced by a blunt object. Such a wound would result from being struck with a rod, as foretold in Micah 5:1. The event is recorded in Matthew 27:29-30 and a similar type of injury in John 18:22 with palm of a hand.

2. The lacerated wound (a laceration) is produced by a tearing instrument. Christ would have received such a wound from the scourging. Prophesied in Isaiah 50:6 and fulfilled in Matthew 27:26 and John 19:1. Eusebius describes not specifically Christ's scourging, but rather the typical pre-crucifixion scourging by the Romans and notes the following: many bled to death before being crucified, in many cases not only was the back of the person scourged cut open in all directions, but even the eyes were torn out, the face and breast were torn open and often teeth knocked out. "All around were horrified to see them torn with the scourges that their very own veins were laid bare, and the inner muscles and sinews, and even their very bowels, were exposed."

3. The abraded wound (abrasion) is caused by some object rubbing or scraping against the skin. Christ would have suffered this type of wound when He was forced to carry the wooden cross upon His back. We must realize that this was His back that was already torn upon by the scourging. John 19:16-17, Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:20-21 and Luke 23:26. His physical condition was so poor that He could not continue to carry the cross and Simon was compelled to carry it the remainder.

4. The penetrating wound is a deep wound caused by a sharp-pointed instrument. This happened to Jesus when they placed upon His head a crown of thorns, Matthew 27:29 and John 19:2. These wounds were undoubtedly deepened when they smote Him "on the head" with the reed, Matthew 27:30.

5. The perforating wound is one that pierces through the body at some point. When Christ was crucified, they drove metal spikes through Him. Although this is not directly stated in the New Testament, it was prophesied of in Psalm 22:16 and the evidence of this wound is shown in John 20:24-29 and Third Nephi 5:14-16 (pages 632-633).

6. The Incised wound (incision) is a cut produced by a sharp-edged instrument. Jesus Christ received this type of wound when the Roman soldier thrust his spear into Christ's side to ensure that He was dead, John 19:34. In John it is recorded that from this wound, there came forth "blood and water". The pericardium is a closed sac encasing the heart and is lubricated by a small amount of fluid (about a teaspoon) to facilitate the motion of the heart. This small amount of moisture would hardly have been noticeable, but Mallory and Wright's Pathological Technique states: "The normal amount (of the pericardial fluid) is about a teaspoonful, but may increase to 100cc (24 teaspoonfuls) where the death agony is prolonged."

The water is testimony of the intense suffering of our Lord as it is also recorded that His sweat was as great drops of blood in Luke 22:44.

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