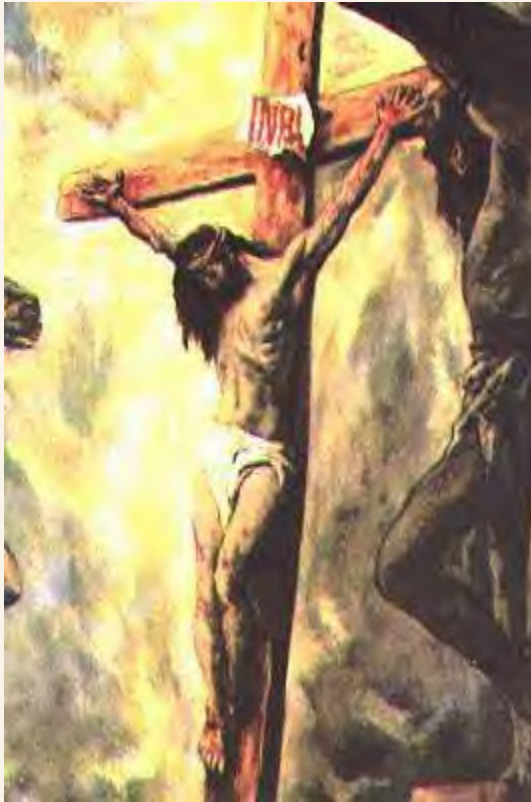


Pathological Phases of Death by Crucifixion



1

The nails, being driven through the hands and feet which are full of nerves and tendons and yet at a distance from the heart, create the most exquisite anguish.

2

The unnatural position of the body plus the violent tension would cause a painful sensation from the slightest motion.

3

The exposure of so many wounds and lacerations would bring on inflammation. Gangrene could result. Every movement would increase suffering.

4

In the distended parts of the body, more blood flows through the arteries than can be adequately carried back into the veins: therefore, too much blood finds its way from the aorta into the head and stomach, and the blood vessels in the head become pressed and swollen. Hence, the general obstruction of circulation which would ensue would cause an intense excitement, exertion, and anxiety more intolerable than death itself.

5

The misery of gradually increasing and lingering anguish.

6

A Burning and raging thirst.