



*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him
should not perish, but have eternal life.*

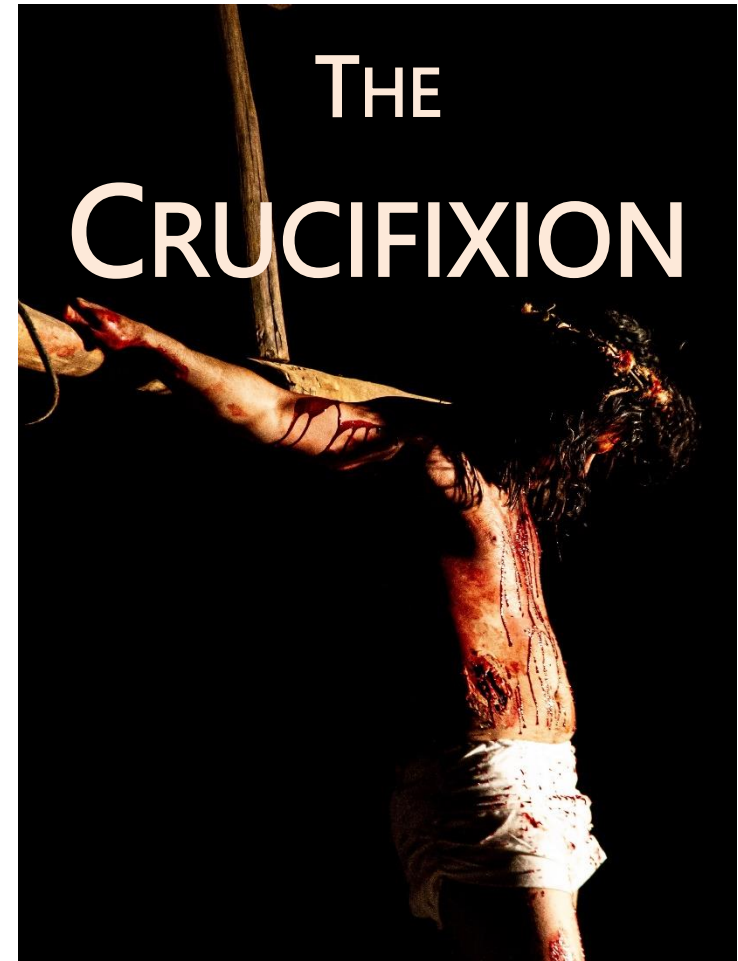
(John 3:16)



Katherine Hilditch has been teaching in local churches for many years. In 2013 she wrote her first booklet and since then has written many more. She created her website to make all the booklets freely available to everyone. They can be read online or printed out. Katherine's threefold purpose is to help people understand more about Jesus and all He has done and won for them, to encourage them to go deeper in their relationship with God and to provide material to help them share their faith with others. To read her story and find all the booklets go to –

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The full Bible account compiled by
Katherine Hilditch

LifeinJesus.net

The Crucifixion

**The Full Bible Account
of
Jesus's Arrest, Trials, Crucifixion and Burial**

Unless otherwise indicated
all Scripture quotations are taken from
the World English Bible British Edition (WEBBE)

Cover photo by Murilo Soares on Pexels

Preface

I have often wanted to be able to read the full account of Jesus's crucifixion rather than in one Gospel at a time, so I set myself the task of integrating all four accounts into one narrative. This is the result.

I have used the World English Bible British Edition (WEBBE), which is copyright free, as my basis, using exact wording from the Bible most of the time. But there are places where I needed to paraphrase or restructure sentences after amalgamating the accounts, to help the flow and aid understanding. I have also changed a few words to more modern ones.

At the start of each section I have included the relevant Bible references.

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aloes, weighing about a hundred Roman pounds. They took his body and bound it in a clean linen cloth with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is when they bury a body. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden. In the garden was Joseph's own new tomb, which he had cut out in the rock. No-one had ever been laid in it. So because of the Jews' Preparation Day they laid Jesus there, as it was nearby. Joseph rolled a great stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

The women, including Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus, who had come with him out of Galilee, followed after, and sitting opposite the tomb, saw how his body was laid there. They returned home and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

The Romans Secure the Tomb

Matthew 27:62-66

Now on the next day, which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together to Pilate, saying, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise again.' Command therefore that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest perhaps his disciples come at night and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He is risen from the dead; and the last deception will be worse than the first.'" Pilate said to them, "You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone.

THE CRUCIFIXION

The Full Bible Account of Jesus's Arrest,
Trials, Crucifixion and Burial

Matthew 26:46-75, 27:1-66; Mark 14:42-72, 15:1-47;
Luke 22:47-71, 23:1-56; John 18:3-40, 19:1-42; Acts 1:18-20

Introduction

Jesus has shared his last meal with his disciples. But afterwards, one of them, Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests who wanted to kill Jesus, and told them where they could find him so they could arrest him. They paid Judas thirty pieces of silver for the information. The account starts as the soldiers and officers arrive in the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus has been praying while his disciples were sleeping nearby.

Jesus is Arrested

Matthew 26:46-56; Mark 14:42-52; Luke 22:47-53; John 18:3-11

Jesus, knowing Judas was approaching, said to his disciples, "Arise, let's be going. See, he who betrays me is at hand." Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came leading a very large detachment of soldiers and officers from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. They brought lanterns, torches, swords and clubs with them. Jesus, knowing all the things that were to happen to him, went out to them.

Now Judas had given the soldiers a sign, saying, "The one I kiss, that is he. Seize him, and lead him away safely." Judas immediately came to Jesus and said, "Rabbi! Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Judas, friend, why are you here? Do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Jesus said to the multitude, "Who are you looking for?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." He said to them, "I am he." When he said to them, "I am he," they went backward, and fell to the ground. He asked them again, "Who are you looking for?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. If therefore, you seek me, let these others go their way." He said this so that the word might be fulfilled which he had spoken, "Of those whom you have given me, I have lost none."

When his disciples who stood by saw what was about to happen, they said to Jesus, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them, Simon Peter, stretched out his hand, and having a sword, drew it, and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Then Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath, for all those who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you think that I couldn't ask my Father, and he would even now send me more than twelve legions of angels? How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must be so? The cup which the Father has given me, shall I not surely drink it?" And Jesus said, "Let me at least do this"—and he touched Malchus's ear and healed him.

Jesus said to the multitude of chief priests, captains of the temple, and the elders, who had come against him, "Have you come out as against a robber with swords and clubs to seize me? When I was with you in the temple teaching daily, you didn't stretch out your hands against me and arrest me. But all this has happened that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. This is your hour, and the power you use is the power of darkness."

Then the soldiers came and laid hands on Jesus, and seized him and all the disciples left him, and fled. But one young man followed him. He only had a linen cloth thrown around himself over his naked body. When the young men grabbed him by the cloth, he let it go and fled from them naked.

whom they pierced." John has seen and testifies to all this, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, that you may believe.

All the multitudes that came together to see this, when they saw the things that were done, returned home beating their breasts. All his acquaintances and many women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem, including those who had served him, stood at a distance watching everything. Amongst them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the less, Joses and Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

Jesus's Burial is Arranged

Matthew 27:57-58; Mark 15:42-45; Luke 23:50-52; John 19:38

After these things, when evening had come, because it was the Preparation Day, that is the day before the Sabbath, a rich man named Joseph came. Joseph was from Arimathaea, a city of the Jews. He was a prominent council member who was also a disciple of Jesus, but in secret for fear of the Jews, and he was waiting for God's Kingdom. He was a good and righteous man and had not consented to the council's decision and actions.

He boldly went in to Pilate, and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate marvelled that Jesus was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead long. When he found out from the centurion, he gave Joseph permission to take the body and commanded that it be given to him.

Jesus is Buried

Matthew 27:9-61; Mark 15:46-47; Luke 23:53-56; John 19:38-42

It was the day of the Preparation, and the Sabbath was drawing near, so Joseph came and took down Jesus' body. Nicodemus, who had first came to Jesus by night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and

After this, Jesus, seeing that everything was now finished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I am thirsty." Now a vessel full of vinegar was standing there, so immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, put it on a reed of hyssop, and held it to his mouth for him to drink. The others said, "Let him be. Let's see whether Elijah comes to take him down and save him."

Jesus Dies

Matthew 27:50-56; Mark 15:37-41; Luke 23:45-49; John 19:30-37

When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished." He cried out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" Having said this, he breathed his last and gave up his spirit. The sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom. The earth quaked and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised and came out of the tombs three days later, after his resurrection, and entered into the holy city and appeared to many.

When the centurion, who stood by opposite Jesus, and those who were with him saw the earthquake and the other things that happened, and that he cried out like this and breathed his last, they feared exceedingly. The centurion glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous man. Truly this man was the Son of God!"

It was the Preparation Day, and so that the bodies wouldn't remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a special one), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that their bodies might be taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first robber and of the other one who was crucified with Jesus; but when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was already dead, they didn't break his legs. However one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. These things happened that the Scripture might be fulfilled, "A bone of him will not be broken." Again another Scripture says, "They will look on him

Jesus before Annas

Matthew 26:57; Mark 14:53; Luke 22:54; John 18:12-14, 19-24

The commanding officer, the officers of the Jews and the whole detachment of soldiers seized Jesus and bound him. They led him first to Annas who was one of the high priests that year, along with his son-in-law, Caiaphas. It was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should perish for the people.

Annas therefore asked Jesus about his disciples, and about his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple where the Jews always meet. I said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them. They know the things which I said." When he had said this, one of the officers standing by slapped Jesus with his hand, saying, "Do you answer the high priest like that?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, explain why it is evil; but if I have spoken well, why do you beat me?"

Annas ordered Jesus to be sent bound to Caiaphas. Those who had arrested Jesus seized him and led him away and brought him into the high priest's house. All the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes came with him. Simon Peter and John, two of Jesus's disciples, followed him from a distance to the court of the high priest.

Peter Denies He Knows Jesus

Matthew 26:58, 69-70; Mark 14:54, 66-68; Luke 22:54-57; John 18:15-18, 25

Now John was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the court of the high priest; but Peter stood at the door outside. So John went out and spoke to the maid who was watching at the door, and brought Peter in.

Now the servants and the officers were standing in the courtyard, having made a fire of coals in the middle of it, for it was cold, and they

were warming themselves. Peter stood with them, warming himself in the light of the fire. He then sat down with the officers, to see how Jesus's trial ended. As he was sitting in the courtyard outside the court, the maid who kept the door saw Peter in the firelight and came to him. She looked intently at him and said, "You were also with Jesus, the Galilean! Are you one of this Nazarene's disciples?" But he denied Jesus before them all, saying, "Woman, I am not. I neither know, nor understand what you are talking about." He went out on the porch, and the rooster crowed.

Jesus before Caiaphas

Matthew 26:59-68; Mark 14:55-65; Luke 22:63-65

Now the chief priests, the elders, and the whole council tried to find witnesses who would give false testimony against Jesus, so that they could put him to death. Even though many false witnesses came forward, their testimonies did not agree with each other, so they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard this man say, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God that is made with hands, and I will do so, and in three days I will build another made without hands.' " But even then their testimonies did not agree.

The high priest stood up in the middle and said to Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is this that these people testify against you?" But Jesus stayed quiet, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, "I charge you under oath by the living God, that you tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God, the Blessed?" Jesus said to him, "You have said it. I am. Nevertheless, I tell you, after this you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the power of God, and coming on the clouds of the sky."

Then the high priest tore his clothing, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Behold, now you have heard his blasphemy, what do you think?" They all condemned him, saying, "He is worthy of death!"

Scripture was fulfilled, which says, "He was counted with transgressors."

Those who passed by blasphemed him, wagging their heads and saying, "Ha! You who would destroy the temple, and build it in three days, if you are the Son of God, save yourself and come down from the cross!" Likewise the chief priests also scoffed at him, mocking him amongst themselves with the scribes, Pharisees and the elders saying, "He trusts in God. Let God deliver him now, if he wants him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.' He saved others. If he is the King of Israel, the Christ of God, his chosen one, let him come down from the cross now and save himself that we may see and will believe in him. But he can't do it." The soldiers also mocked him, coming to him and offering him vinegar, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" One of the robbers who were crucified with him also insulted him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!" But the other robber answered, and rebuking him said, "Don't you even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." He said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." Jesus said to him, "Assuredly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and John, the disciple whom he loved, standing there, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to John, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour, John took her to his own home.

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. At about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is, being interpreted, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of them who stood there, when they heard it, said, "This man is calling Elijah."

“Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming in which they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will begin to tell the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and tell the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will be done when it is dry?” They also led two criminals out with him to be put to death.

Jesus is Crucified

Matthew 27:33-49; Mark 15:22-36; Luke 23:33-44; John 19:17-29

When they had brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which is, being interpreted from Hebrew, ‘The place of a skull’, they offered him sour wine mixed with gall and myrrh to drink, but when he had tasted it he would not drink. It was the third hour, and when they had crucified him there, Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”

Then the soldiers took his garments and divided them into four parts and gave one part to each soldier. But his coat was seamless, woven from the top throughout, so they said to one another, “Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide whose it will be.” This fulfilled the Scripture which says, “They parted my garments amongst them. For my cloak they cast lots.” Then the soldiers sat and watched Jesus while the people stood watching too.

Pilate wrote the accusation against him and the soldiers put it on the cross over his head. It said, “THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.” Many of the Jews read it, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. The chief priests of the Jews therefore said to Pilate, “Don’t write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘he said, “I am King of the Jews.” ’ ” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

They crucified the two criminals who were robbers with him; one on his right hand and one on his left with Jesus in the middle. Thus the

Some began to spit on him and, after they had blindfolded him, the men who held Jesus mocked him and beat him with their fists, striking him on the face. The officers slapped him with the palms of their hands, saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is the one who struck you?” They spoke many other things against him, insulting him.

Peter Denies Jesus Twice More

Matthew 26:71-75; Mark 14:69-71; Luke 22:58-62; John 18:26-27

A little while after Peter had gone out onto the porch, the maid saw him again, and began again to tell those who stood by, “This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

One of the servants of the high priest, being a relative of the soldier whose ear Peter had cut off, saw him, and said to him, “Didn’t I see you in the garden with Jesus? You aren’t also one of his disciples, are you? You are one of them!” Again Peter denied it with an oath and answered, “Man, I am not! I don’t know the man.”

After about one hour had passed, again those who stood by came and confidently said to Peter, “Surely you truly are also one of them, for you are a Galilean and your speech shows it.” Then Peter began to curse and to swear and denied it again saying, “Man, I don’t know what you are talking about! I don’t know this man of whom you speak!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed the second time.

The Lord Jesus turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” When he remembered this, he went out and wept bitterly.

Jesus before Caiaphas and the Council

Matthew 27:1; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66-71

Now as soon as morning had come, the whole council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the scribes, gathered together and held a consultation against Jesus to put him to death. They led Jesus into their council, saying, "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you won't believe, and if I ask, you will never answer me or let me go. From now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." They all said, "Are you then the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say it, because I am." They said, "Why do we need any more witness? For we ourselves have heard from his own mouth!"

Jesus before the Roman Governor, Pilate

Matthew 27:2, 11-14; Mark 15:1; Luke 23:1-7; John 18:28-38

The council bound Jesus, and the whole company of them rose up and led him away from Caiaphas into the Praetorium and delivered him up to Pontius Pilate, the governor. They themselves didn't enter into the Praetorium, so that they would not be defiled and not be able to eat the Passover. Pilate therefore went out to them, and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man Jesus?" They answered him, "If this man weren't an evildoer, we wouldn't have delivered him up to you." And they began to accuse Jesus, saying, "We found this man perverting the nation, forbidding paying taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

Pilate therefore entered again into the Praetorium, called Jesus, and when he stood before him, said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said to him, "So you say. Do you say this by yourself, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate answered, "I'm not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered you to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not of this world. If my

Judas's Death

Matthew 27:3-10; Acts 1:18-20

When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse, and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? You see to it." He threw down the pieces of silver in the sanctuary, and departed. Now he had obtained a potter's field with the reward for his wickedness. There he hanged himself, and falling headlong his body burst open and all his intestines gushed out. In their language, that field became known to everyone who lived in Jerusalem as 'Akeldama,' that is, 'the field of blood.' And it is still known so today. It is written in the book of Psalms, 'Let his habitation be made desolate. Let no one dwell in it;' and, 'Let another take his office.'

The chief priests took the pieces of silver, and said, "It's not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is the price of blood." They took counsel, and bought the potter's field with the silver pieces, to bury strangers in. Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, "They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price which some of the children of Israel had put upon him, and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

The Walk to Golgotha

Matthew 27:32; Mark 15:21; Luke 23:26-32; John 19:16-17

The Jews took Jesus and led him away. He went out, carrying his cross. As they came out, they grabbed a man coming from the country, whose name was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, and they forced him to go with them, so that he might carry Jesus's cross. They laid it on him, to carry it following after Jesus.

A great multitude of the people followed, including women who also mourned and lamented him. But Jesus, turning to them, said,

to him out of envy. Now the chief priests and the elders stirred up the multitude and persuaded them to ask him to release Barabbas to them, and destroy Jesus. They all cried out together, shouting, "Away with this man! Release to us Barabbas!"

Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, said to them, "What then shall I do to Jesus, who is called Christ, whom you call the King of the Jews?" They all cried out to him, "Let him be crucified!" Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted again, crying out exceedingly, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

But Pilate, the governor, said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has this man done? I have found no capital crime in him." But they cried out urgently with loud voices, saying, "Let him be crucified! Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" The voices of the multitude and of the chief priests prevailed.

So when Pilate saw that nothing was being gained, but rather that a disturbance was starting, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this righteous person. You see to it." All the people answered, "May his blood be on us, and on our children!"

So Pilate, wishing to please the multitude, decreed that what they asked for should be done. He released to them the one they wanted – Barabbas, who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers took the purple off him, and put his own garments on him and the Jews took him away to crucify him.

Kingdom were of this world, then my servants would fight, so that I wouldn't be delivered to the Jews. But now my Kingdom is not from here." Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this reason I have been born, and for this reason I have come into the world, that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

When he had said this, Pilate went out again to the chief priests, the elders and the multitudes. The chief priests and elders accused Jesus of many things, but he answered nothing. Then Pilate said to him, "Don't you hear how many things they testify against you?" Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer?" Jesus gave him no answer, not even one word, so that Pilate marvelled greatly.

Pilate said to the Jews, "I find no basis for a charge against this man. Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law." They said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," This was said so that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled which he spoke signifying by what kind of death he should die. And they insisted, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee even to this place."

But when Pilate heard Galilee mentioned, he asked if Jesus was a Galilean. When he found out that he was in Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

Jesus before King Herod

Luke 23:8-12

Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad, for he had wanted to see him for a long time, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle done by him. He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave no answers. The chief priests and the scribes stood, vehemently accusing him. Herod with his soldiers humiliated him and mocked him. Dressing him in luxurious

clothing, they sent him back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before that they were enemies.

Jesus Before Pilate a Second Time

Luke 23:13-16

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, and said to them, “You brought this man to me as one that perverts the people, and behold, having examined him before you, I found no basis for a charge against this man concerning those things of which you accuse him. Neither has Herod, for I sent you to him, and see, nothing worthy of death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him.”

Jesus is Tortured

Matthew 27:27-31; Mark 15:16-19; John 19:1-3

So Pilate took Jesus, and flogged him. Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison together against him. They stripped him and dressed him in a purple garment and put a scarlet robe on him. The soldiers twisted thorns into a crown, and put it on his head and a reed in his right hand. They knelt down before him, and mocking him, they began to salute him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They kept saying it. They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head and kept slapping him.

Jesus Continues Before Pilate

Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15, 20; Luke 23:17-25; John 18:39-40, 19:2-16

Then Pilate went out again to the Jews and said to them, “Behold the man! I bring him out to you that you may know that I find no basis for a charge against him.” Jesus therefore came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment. When the chief priests and the

officers of the Jews saw him, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves, and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.” When Pilate heard them say this, he was more afraid.

He entered into the Praetorium again, and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, “Aren’t you speaking to me? Don’t you know that I have power to release you, and have power to crucify you?” Jesus answered, “You would have no power at all against me, unless it were given to you from above. Therefore he who delivered me to you has greater sin.”

At this, Pilate was seeking to release him, but the Jews cried out, saying, “If you release this man, you aren’t Caesar’s friend! Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar!” When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called “The Pavement”, which was ‘Gabbatha’ in Hebrew. Now it was about the sixth hour on the Preparation Day of the Passover.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent a message to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him.”

The Romans had then a notable prisoner called Barabbas. He was a robber and had been thrown into prison for a revolt in the city, during which he had committed murder. He was bound with his fellow insurgents. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release to the multitude one prisoner, whoever they asked for.

Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said to the Jews, “You have a custom, that I should release someone to you at the Passover.” The multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do this just as he always did. He asked, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus, the King of the Jews who is called Christ?” For he perceived that the chief priests had delivered Jesus up