

He Was Crucified, We Are At One with God

Jesus was Nailed to a Cross!

Wednesday, 3/18 at 11:00 & 7:00

Fourth Wednesday of Lent – 2020

Lenten Wednesdays: Join Us for our Free Meals at 12 & 6

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: During the last 21 hours – *before Jesus declared His work to be finished*, He ✦ washed feet, ✦ ate the Passover meal, ✦ instituted the Lord's Supper, ✦ prayed in Gethsemane, ✦ was arrested, and ✦ was put on trial six times. Today we focus on 3 of those 21 hours, from about 6-9 AM, which include ✦ Jesus being scourged, ✦ the end of His final trial – *according to John*, ✦ His journey to the place of crucifixion, and ✦ His actual crucifixion.

We now go to Pilate's residence in Jerusalem, *thus his palace*, which was called the Praetorium; it was probably built years earlier by Herod the Great as one of his residential palaces. It was probably located near the Antonia Fortress, which was essentially a Roman military based located in Jerusalem.

1. **Jesus Being Scourged** (John 19): ¹ Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ² And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³ They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. // Flogged: "The Romans... used short-handled whips... with

several lashes [and] pieces of lead or... bone being fastened to... each short lash.... The skin and flesh of the back were gashed to the very bone” (Lenski, 1245). Pilate had Jesus’ flogged in an attempt to satisfy the crowd, to move them to show Jesus mercy. Did Pilate’s plan work?

2. **The End of Jesus’ Final Trial – According to John** (John 19):

- a. Pilate hoped the Jews would be satisfied: ⁴ **Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.”** ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶ When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” ⁷ The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” ⁸ When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. // Pilate was caught between a rock and a hard place; when he said, “Behold the man,” he hoped for mercy, *but none was given!* Now what?
- b. Pilate spoke one-on-one with Jesus: ⁹ **[Pilate] entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?”** But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” ¹¹ Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.” // Let’s keep things in perspective, *God is the Giver of all*

authority (see [Romans 13](#)). And who delivered Jesus to Pilate? Caiaphas, the high priest; *his sin is greater than the sin of Pilate*. As those men were given authority to judge Jesus, *so they were judged by God Almighty!*

- c. Pilate sought to release Jesus: ¹² **From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”**
// Pilate tried to release Jesus **and** keep his own position, *yet it became impossible to do both*.
- d. Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified: ¹³ **So when Pilate heard these words** [regarding Caesar], **he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat** [to render his final decision] **at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha.** ¹⁴ **Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover** [*in other words, it was the week of the Passover Festival and the Friday before the Sabbath of Passover week*]. **It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!”** ¹⁵ **They cried out, “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.”** ¹⁶ **So [Pilate] delivered [Jesus] over to [the soldiers] to be crucified.** // Matthew, Mark, and Luke indicate that Jesus was crucified about 9 AM, *so it seems likely that Jesus was condemned to die closer to 8 AM* (difficult).

3. **Jesus Journey to the Place of Crucifixion** (Matthew 27):
³² **As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name** [*Cyrene was a Jewish community in northern Africa*]. **They compelled this man to carry his cross** [*Jesus was weak from being flogged*]. ³³ **And when they came to a place**

called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. // The place of Jesus' crucifixion is called *Golgotha* (Aramaic), *Calvaria* (Latin), and Calvary (English). *They all refer to the skull-shaped hill where Jesus was crucified.* Since the wine mixed with gall would reduce Jesus' senses and pain, *He refused to drink.*

4. **Jesus Actual Crucifixion** (Matthew 27): ³⁵ **And when they had crucified him** [*attached Him to His cross*], **they divided his garments among them by casting lots.** ³⁶ **Then they sat down and kept watch over him there.** ³⁷ **And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."** ³⁸ **Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.** // The Romans used crucifixion to intimidate people: *Look at the King of the Jews! Do you want to be the next king?*
- Some of the horrors of crucifixion: We don't know all the details, but, *mostly likely*, Jesus was naked and nailed to His cross; *the pain was excruciating!*
 - Jesus prayed: From Luke's account we know that "Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do'" (Luke 23:34 ESV). Those soldiers did their job; *they were ignorant of Jesus' identity and innocence.* Let us be thankful that Jesus also prays for us, for our sins **♣of ignorance** and **♣of knowledge!**

Let Us Pray: Dear Lord Jesus, as You were made **at one** with Your cross, so we have been made **at one** with God by grace through faith in Your finished work; TYSVM!!!!

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