

Holy Thursday – 2024

Thursday, 3/28 at 11 am & 7 pm



The Holy Week Journey

Text: Mark 15:1-19 NAS-95

Holy Week: Th 11 & 7; Fr 11 & 7; Sa 4 | Easter: 9 (breakfast 10:30)

Jesus:
▶ To Pilate,
▶ To be
Crucified,
▶ Is Mocked

Based on the Booklet
Days 33-35

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: In the last sermon I told you about the *secret plan* of evil leaders to murder one man.

- **Then**, *in secret*, they arrested that man!
- **Then**, *illegally*, they put Him on trial multiple times!
- **Then**, *they declared Him guilty of blasphemy* – because He claimed to be the Christ, the Holy One of God!
- **Now**, *no longer in secret*, and having gained the support of an ignorant and heartless mob, that man will be taken to the governor.
- **Now**, the evil leaders must convince the governor to do their dirty work, *to murder the man they hate!*

The day is Good Friday; it's about 5 o'clock in the morning.

Day 33 (Fr, 3/22) – Jesus Delivered to Pilate: **15:1** Early in the [morning](#) [*πρωϊ* – in Jewish time reckoning, the fourth watch of the night (from 3:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M.)] [the chief priests with the](#)

elders and scribes and the whole Council, immediately held a consultation; and binding Jesus, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate [the Roman Governor]. // The Council had already decided to murder Jesus, so why a consultation? It was illegal to have a trial at night – *like the previous trials*. Therefore, *to try to make things look legit*, they met and confirmed their earlier decision – *at the crack of dawn*.

² Pilate questioned [Jesus], **“Are You the King of the Jews?”** And He answered him, **“It is as you say.”** ³ The chief priests *began* to accuse Him harshly. ⁴ Then Pilate questioned Him again, saying, **“Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!”** ⁵ But Jesus made no further answer; so Pilate was amazed.

- Pilate didn't care about blasphemy, *the reason the Council had condemned Jesus*, so they told Pilate about Jesus' claim to be **the King of the Jews** – *trying to move Pilate to murder Jesus on their behalf*.
- Whenever Jesus was asked a legitimate question, He answered. **He is the King of the Jews** (Matt. 2:2)!

Day 34 (Sa, 3/23) – Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified: 15:6

Now at *the feast* [Pilate] used to release for them *any one* prisoner whom they requested. ⁷ The man named Barabbas had been imprisoned with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the insurrection [*a violent uprising against the Roman government*]. ⁸ The crowd went up and began asking [Pilate] *to do* as he had been accustomed to do for them.

- Let's identify the crowd: It was a multitude, *a large number*, of common people who had been deceived by the evil Jewish leaders into thinking that Jesus was guilty and needed to die.

- We have a similar multitude in the USA who have been deceived into thinking ✓the Bible is false, ✓the BIG bang is true, ✓there is no God, ✓there is no eternity, ✓there is no right and wrong, ✓genders are not limited to male and female, ✓abortion is not murder, and ✓actions have no consequences. May the Holy Spirit intervene quickly and powerfully to ➔open many closed ears, ➔enlighten many ignorant minds, ➔soften many hard hearts, and ➔lead vast multitudes to repent and believe unto eternal life!

⁹ Pilate answered [the crowd], saying, **“Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”** ¹⁰ For he was aware that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.

¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd *to ask him to release Barabbas for them instead.* // The chief priests were *evil leaders*, but, sadly, many believed their lies – *just like many in America today.* Let’s make sure ➔our sources are reliable and ➔our information is accurate – *before taking a position.*

¹² Answering again, Pilate said to [the crowd], **“Then what shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?”**

¹³ They shouted back, **“Crucify Him!”** ¹⁴ But Pilate said to them, **“Why, what evil has He done?”** But they shouted all the more, **“Crucify Him!”** ¹⁵ Wishing to satisfy the crowd [*and save his own skin, rather than maintain justice*], Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

- I find no guilt in Him: Pilate said that *repeatedly* about Jesus (Luke 23:4, 14, 22; John 18:38; 19:4, 6), but since *his life and position* were more important to him than *justice*, he gave in to the crowd.

- Jesus was scourged: †He was stripped of His clothes, †His hands were tied to an upright post, and †He was very severely beaten!

Day 35 (Mo, 3/25) – Jesus Is Mocked: 15:16 The soldiers took [Jesus] away into the palace [courtyard] (that is, the Praetorium) [the governor's official residence], and they called together the whole Roman cohort [normally including 600 troops].¹⁷ They dressed Him up in purple [mocking His claim to be the King of the Jews], and after twisting a crown of thorns, they put it on Him; ¹⁸ and they began to [salute] Him, “**Hail, King of the Jews!**” ¹⁹ They kept beating His head with a reed [driving the thorns further into His head], and spitting on Him, and kneeling and bowing before Him. // The mocking by the soldiers was severe. After Jesus was crucified, *many more mocked Him!*

²⁰ After they had mocked Him, they took the purple robe off Him and put His *own* garments on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him [to nail Him to a cross and make sure He stayed on the cross until He was dead].

Conclusion: What happened to Jesus was horrible, but it was all part of God's plan to ❤️ *rescue us from our sins and* ❤️ *gift us with eternal life.* The plan was †made before creation, †spoken in Eden, †written down in the OT Scriptures, and †perfectly followed by the Son of God wearing human flesh.

Let Us Pray: Dear Father – *TY for Your plan!* Dear Jesus – *TY for Your perfect obedience to the plan!* Dear Holy Spirit – *TY for gifting us with godly sorrow and saving faith in Jesus!*

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