



MARK

The Gift of God





The Suffering Savior

Mark 15:1-20

Mark 15:1-20



The Suffering Savior:

1. Questioned by the Governor (1-5)
2. Rejected by the Crowd (6-15)
3. Mocked by the Soldiers (16-20)



Questioned by the Governor

- Early in the morning (1)
 - Friday after sunrise (hours after 'trial')
 - Second meeting & during daylight hours
 - Deciding on charges to bring to Pilate
 - Most likely at fortress of Antonia near the temple (cf. Acts 21:31; 22:24)



Questioned by the Governor

- The Jews had great autonomy, but not for capital punishment (John 18:28-32)
- They needed to force Pilate to kill Him
- Jesus foretold this (Mark 10:32-34)
 - All according to *the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God* (Acts 2:23)



Questioned by the Governor

- As procurator, Pilate was given complete civil, military, and criminal jurisdiction by Tiberius Caesar (who was paranoid)
- He was cruel, but not tactful
- He hated the Jews and provoked them
- Tiberius rebuked him for his provocations
- The Jews knew how to manipulate him



Questioned by the Governor

- “Are You the King of the Jews?” (2)
 - Accused of inciting rebellion (Luke 23:14)
 - Misleading nation, forbidding paying taxes, saying He is a king (Luke 23:2)
 - Because the Romans didn’t care about *blasphemy* (14:65; John 18:29-32)
- “You say” – “Yes, but...” (John 18:33-37)



Questioned by the Governor

- More charges (3), but no reply (4-5)
 - Pilate realized Jesus was innocent (10, 14; Matt. 27:23; Luke 23:14-5; John 18:38; 19:4, 6)
 - Amazed - *a silent insurrectionist?*
 - Pilate should have released Him then



Rejected by the Crowd

- Custom of releasing a prisoner (6)
 - Act of goodwill
 - Often a political prisoner
- Who was this crowd? (8)
 - Not necessarily same people as Sunday
 - Most likely there for Barabbas' release



Rejected by the Crowd

Barabbas

son of abba (father)

Insurrection

Murder

Robbery

Guilty

Jesus

Son of God

Render to Caesar...

Restored Life

Multiplied/Gave

Innocent



Rejected by the Crowd

- Pilate *between a rock and a hard place*
 - He knew Jesus was innocent (stated 5x)
 - He knew the chief priests' motive (10)
- Pilate appealed to the crowd to get him off the hook (9)
- The chief priests stirred up the crowd (11)



Rejected by the Crowd

- If Pilate released the criminal, what should he do with the innocent man? (12)
- To his shock: “Crucify Him!” (13)
- “Why, what evil has He done?” (14a)
 - Made efforts to release Him (John 19:12)
- All the more, “Crucify Him!” (14b)

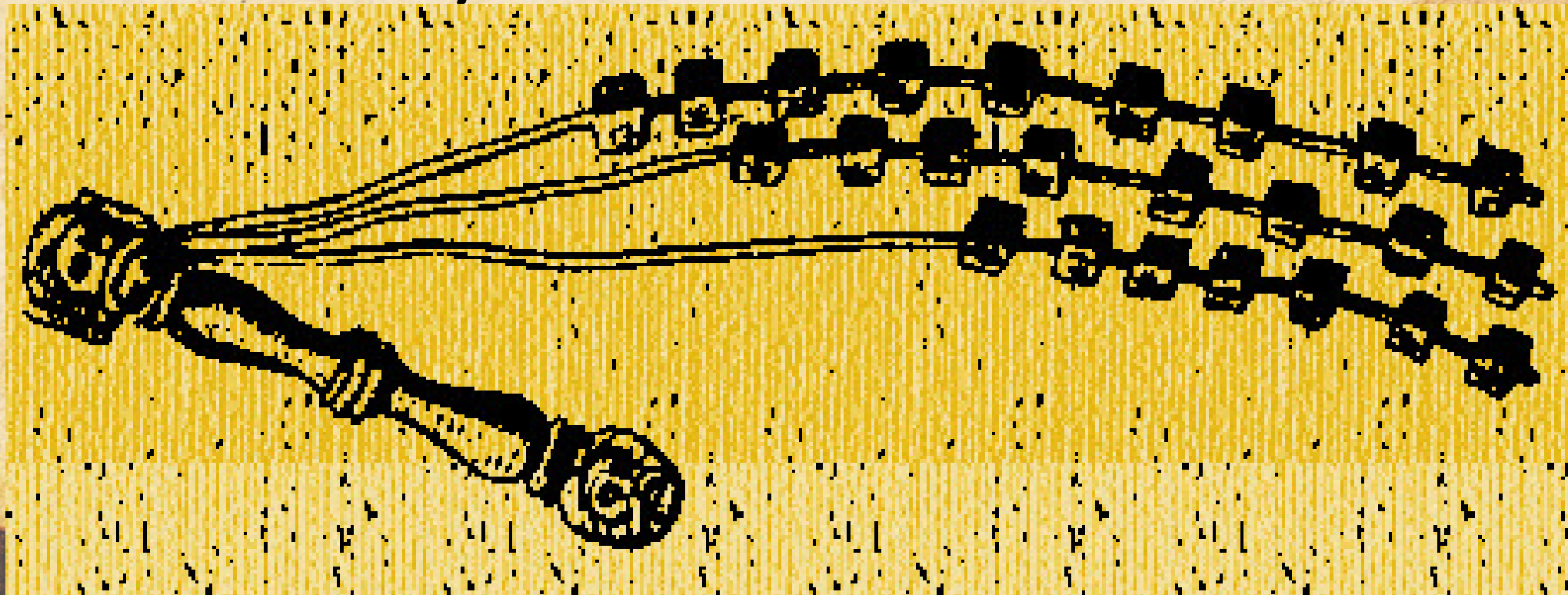


Rejected by the Crowd

- Wishing to satisfy the crowd (15)
 - “a riot was starting” (Matt. 27:24)
 - He was skating on thin ice with Tiberius
 - Rather than stand for what he knew to be true and right, Pilate caved to the demands of the crowd (chief priests)

Mocked by the Soldiers

- Pilate had Jesus scourged (15)
- Most likely *39 lashes*





Mocked by the Soldiers

- Pilate had Jesus scourged (15)
 - Most likely *39 lashes*
- “I gave My back to those who strike Me,
And My cheeks to those who pluck out the
beard; I did not cover My face from
humiliation and spitting.” (Isa. 50:6)



Mocked by the Soldiers

- Cohort = 1/10 Legion (*80-600 men*) (16)
 - Why? Zealous for Caesar; hatred of all Jews; *bloodlust*; human depravity?
- All according to plan: Mark 10:33-34; Isa. 53; Acts 2:22-24; 4:27



So What?

- Have I ever felt like the whole world was against me?
 - 1 Pet. 2:21-25; 3:13-18; 4:12-13
 - “For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake” (Phil. 1:29)

So What?



- Am I willing to stand for what is true?
 - Regardless of the circumstances?
 - Regardless of the consequences?
- Contrast: Jesus vs Pilate

So What?



- Am I willing to *take up my cross*? (8:34)
 - Distress; *deeply grieved to the point of death*; abandonment; no sleep; spit on; beaten with fists; slapped in the face; denial; lies; rejection; scourging; crown of thorns; head beaten with a reed; more spitting; mockery; insults; crucifixion