

Christ Crucified

Mark 15.1-15

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, **suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified...**

Interesting SUMMARY of Jesus Life: from Birth to SUFFERING
Heidelberg Catechism: 'Suffered' describes ENTIRE LIFE, Climax > CROSS

DEATH is FOCUS of 4 GOSPEL > 'Passion Narratives with Introductions'
HIS Final week on Earth told in: Luke 1/4 - Matthew & Mark 1/3 - John 1/2

STRANGE and SADISTIC? > Cross atop Churches > Around Neck of Believers
ICON of Great DEVOTION > Christian ART, MUSIC, POETRY, TESTIMONY

Like OBSESSION with Gas Chamber, Guillotine, Firing Squad, Electric Chair?
Why are Christians so CONSUMED by Symbol of DEATH and SUFFERING?

NAME of His EXECUTIONER found way into CREED of Faith >> WHY??

1. Reality – One Day of All Days
2. Responsibility – One Man for All Men
3. Reason – One Savior for the Whole World

1. Reality – One Day of All Days

a. Planned from Eternity

Can You Imagine PLANNING Mtg in Courts of HEAVEN > Before Time Begins
God tells ANGELS > Mark your CALENDAR > On this Friday My SON DIES!

...the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world
Revelation 13:8

Minor Text. DISPUTE: Exactly WHAT was BEFORE Creation?

BOOK WRITTEN or was CROSS DETERMINED?? Either way SAME Result
Eternal PLAN of God: SAVE Chosen People thru DEATH of Jesus before Creation

The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed Luke 22.22

This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge Acts 2.23

the blood of the eternal covenant Hebrews 13.20

b. Place and Time: Plan ETERNITY > Really Happened

GOD PREPARED Unique TIME for SPREAD of Christian GOSPEL

PAX ROMANA – Roman LAW, PROTECTION, ROADS, POST, SEA TRAVEL

GREEK PHILOSOPHY – Proved EMPTY, HOPELESS, BANKRUPT

JEWISH Synagogues – Thruout EMPIRE spread LAW of MOSES - Monotheism

ONE Common TRADE Language Spoken throughout EMPIRE – GREEK

Some RELIGIONS THRIVE in SHADOWS, UNCERTAINTY of MYTHS

300 Million gods of HINDUS: Stories are LEGENDS > Religion STANDS

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

1 Corinthians 15:17

CHRISTIAN Faith STANDS on BOLD HISTORICAL CLAIMS

If FOUND FALSE > COLLAPSE of ENTIRE FAITH – Belief of FOOLS

MATTHEW'S Gospel opens with MAGI from BABYLON Seeking Jesus

LUKE opens with CENSUS from CAESAR AUGUSTUS Guiding Holy Family

Although Christ is the focal point of history, he is also and at the same time over and in control of history... We may enter that history consciously through faith in him.

James Boice

Historical FACTS do NOT SAVE > But God Saves within Known HISTORY

NT Writers were Historians > Concern for ACCURACY and RELIABILITY

“I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning” Luke 1.3

Name PILATE written 61 X's in NT > NAME of Roman EXECUTIONER
 Real Man - Governor of Judea from 26 to 36 AD > 2 Last Names, 1st Name??

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law,
 to redeem those under law
 Galatians 4.4-5

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar - when Pontius Pilate was
 governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea
 and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene during the high priesthood of
 Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.
 Luke 3.1,2

LUKE paints Ray of LIGHT coming out of DARK CANVAS: Word of God Comes
 Context ROUGE'S GALLERY of POLITICAL & ECCLESASTICAL Evil Men
 OUTCAST in DESERT > PREPARES a Highway for COMING of God Himself

BEGINNING of Jesus Ministry > PONTIUS PILATE > Stands in SHADOWS
 END of Jesus EARTHLY Ministry > Pontius Pilates > Moves to CENTER Stage

They bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate, the governor.
 Matthew 27:2

Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in
 this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did
 what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Acts 4:27-29

2. Responsibility – One Man for All Men

PILATE > Forever Associated with DEATH of Jesus / Name lives in INFAMY
 BIBLE: Wider NET of COMPLICITY, Pilate most FAMOUS, We're ALL There!

This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and
 you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.
 Acts 2.23

a. Judas Iscariot: *'It's all about ME!'*

Judas' Name occurs at BOTTOM of Gospel Lists of 12 APOSTLES:

Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. Matthew 10:4

Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. Luke 6:16

DIFFICULT to UNDERSTAND > So CLOSE to Jesus > LOVED by HIM

SYMPATHY from Some > VICTIM of PREDESTINATION, PUPPET of God

Jesus' Prayed: "None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled." John 17:12

Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. Luke 22:3

BIBLE: He's RESPONSIBLE Moral Agent / SAME CHAPTER: Satan & SINFUL

The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed, but woe to that man who betrays him." Luke 22.22

BIBLE: BOLD CLAIMS: God Planned It AND Man Performed & is PUNISHED
No APOLOGY or HESITANCY > 2 SEEMINGLY Contradictory truths
'THAT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE!!' > Tell it to GOD!

Judas was FILLED WITH REMORSE > BUT SADLY NOT REPENTANCE
With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell
headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. Acts 1:18

EVIL MOTIVE?? JEALOUS? FRUSTRATED with Jesus love for ROMANS?

Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him...*he was a thief*; as keeper of the money
bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. John 12:4-6

WORDS Spoken after MARY Anointed Jesus w/ EXPENSIVE PERFUME
'What EXTRAVAGANT WASTE!' > Money could be USED in BETTER Way

WAY Judas thought was REALLY BEST Use > OWN PERSONAL GAIN
SOLD Jesus for 30 Pieces of SILVER > Ransom PRICE of Common SLAVE

Jesus: "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed" Luke 12:15

Jesus: IMPOSSIBLE to Serve GOD & MONEY // JUDAS CHOSE MONEY
MANY OTHERS HAVE DONE THE SAME

Paul: The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
1 Timothy 6:10

GREED > Sin has CAPTURED KZ > Captured JUDAS > CRUCIFIED Jesus

b. Unbelieving Jews: *'Leave us Alone!'*

JESUS and all 12 APOSTLES were JEWS > Early Christian faith JEWISH Faith

So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. Acts 6:7

THOUSANDS made RADICAL Break w/ Dominant Traditions of Jewish Legalism
Embraced JESUS of Nazareth: LONG AWAITED Messiah of HEBREW Scriptures
Found in HIM > Fulfillment of all GOD'S PROMISES for ISRAEL & The World

MANY DID NOT > Called Jesus LIAR, IMPOSTOR, BLASPHEMER

For this reason *the Jews tried all the harder to kill him*; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. John 5:18

The Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!" John 12:19

Jesus more POPULAR / Message more PERSUASIVE / Must be SILENCED

The chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and they plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him.
Matthew 26:3-4

Mob of JEWS – Incited by JEALOUS LEADERS – Shouted FATEFUL WORDS

"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ...All the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"
Matthew 27:22-25

2000 yrs of Jewish SUFFERING > PROVED Power of that FOOLISH REQUEST

...the Jews, who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to all men...In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16

BLAMING JEWS for Cross VERY ANTI-SOCIAL > Could get Preacher Arrested!
CLEAR Teaching of Bible > NOT Grounds for Anti-Semitism or Persecution
Bible ALSO Clearly Teachers > GUILT of Jews is SHARED by Many Others

ROOT of their SIN?? > Jesus GOT IN THEIR WAY > Upset their AGENDA
CHALLENGED their COMFORT, their POSITION, Traditions, TREASURES

Jesus is a transcendental interfeerer

C.S. Lewis

WE are HIS BUSINESS > He will NEVER LEAVE us ALONE!

c. Pontius Pilate: *'It wasn't MY Fault!'*

IMMEDIATE Responsibility for CROSS > ROMAN SOLDIERS

Night Trial

Arrested in Gethsemane by Jewish Temple Police > SANHEDRIN > Blasphemy

JUDEA was ROMAN Colony > Only Rome could EXECUTE CRIMINAL
Jewish Leaders wanted Jesus DEAD > Only Gov. Pilate Right > *Mutual Hatred!*

ROMAN Law > NO Interest in BLASPHEMY as Understood by Jewish Theologs.
Clever JEWS brought Him on DEADLY Charges of INSURRECTION, TREASON

Brought EARLY Friday AM – Roman Officials worked from SUN-UP
By MID-MORNING they were ENJOYING LIFE of PAMPERED LEADERS

GOSPEL Emphasis NOT Trial BEFORE Pilate, but TRIAL OF PILATE
Stands Exposed as he Tries to ESCAPE his Own Responsibility and GUILT

Pilate CLEARLY CONVINCED of Jesus INNOCENCE > Declared so 3 X's
"Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. Mark 15.14

WIFE given DREAM to CONFIRM Jesus INNOCENCE > Interesting Revelation

Jesus DEATH > Clearly DESIRED by HOT-HEADED Jews > **EVASION???**

1) **'Pass the Buck'** Jesus a GALILEAN?: **Send to HEROD** Puppet-King of Galilee

Jewish Mob: "...He started in Galilee and has come all the way here." On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.
Luke 23:5-7

LUKE narrates another TRAVESTY of JUSTICE before SELFISH FOOL Herod
Did not WORK > Jesus COMES BACK to PILATE'S Domain for DECISION

2) **Tried HALF-MEASURES** > Tried to SATISFY Crowd's LUST for BLOOD

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him...Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.... Luke 23:13-17

If INNOCENT should be RELEASED FREELY > NOT TORTURED!

3) Tried to do Right Thing for Wrong Reason > Release SOMEONE

Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists... "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. Mark 15:6-11

RIGHT Thing > RELEASE Jesus / WRONG Reason > MOBOCRACY /
DECISION determined by CROWDS / NOT by CLEAR CONVICTIONS

Should have RELEASED Jesus as Act of JUSTICE, NOT an Act of CLEMENCY

4) Tried to Claim Innocence

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" Matthew 27:24

Before His HANDS were DRY > Handed Jesus over to be CRUCIFIED

Pilate was no unnatural monster; he was a man in so many ways like all others. This is what makes his story such a warning, and also so credible. R. Alan Cole

5) Ambition exceeded Obedience

Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." John 19:12

Pilate ALREADY in TROUBLE with TIBERIUS CAESAR > 2 or 3 Other Times
If FRIEND of Caesar > Continued POSITION of Status, Favor, Good Retirement

WATER of Palace did NOT WASH Pilate's GUILT Off Hands > Died SUICIDE

US? > Do we follow Jesus with WHOLE-HEARTED Commitment??

LOOKING for Ways to CHEAT, COMPROMISE on our CALLING to SERVE?

d. Me and You: *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Jesus: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." Luke 19:10
LITTLE Sinner like ZACHEUS & BIG Sinner like Mark Blair

GOSPEL writers NEVER Mention GORY DETAILS of the Cross
NO mention of HAMMER, NAILS, PAIN, or Even BLOOD

Then they led him away to crucify him. Matthew 27:31

He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. Mark 15:15

Here they crucified him, and with him two others John 19:18

Gospel READERS in Roman EMPIRE > SEEN Horrors of CRUCIFIXION
No Need to REMIND of Torn Flesh, Agonizing Pain, Gasping, Final Suffocation

Last Friday > Thot to watch 'Passion of the Christ' 2nd Time > CANNOT BEAR

MANY Thousands > Suffered Cruel Cross > Invented by BARBARIANS
REFINED by SADISTICALLY SOPHISTICATED GREEKS and ROMANS

Reserved for Crimes of: MURDER, REBELLION, or ARMED ROBBERY
ONLY given to SLAVES, FOREIGNERS, or other NON-PERSONS

Most CRUEL Execut INVENTED > Death DELAYED long as POSSIBLE > Days
Cross Intended to SHAME the SUFFERER > EXPOSED in NAKED AGONY

ABHORED Also by JEWS > SIGN of GOD'S CURSE

...anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse... Deuteronomy 21:23

If Jesus was a crucified messiah, he was certainly a failed messiah – and in all
likelihood a false messiah. Luke Timothy Johnson

WORST SUFFERING > What we CANNOT SEE > ENORMITY of SIN on Him
BEARING in HIS BODY > WRATH of God > 'My God, My God, WHY...??'

Our sins put him there. So, far from offering us flattery, the cross undermines our self-righteousness. We can stand before it only with a bowed head and a broken spirit. And there we remain until the Lord Jesus speaks to our hearts his word of pardon and acceptance

John Stott

‘Twas I that shed the sacred blood
I nailed him to the tree
I crucified the Christ of God
I joined the mockery.

Of all that shouting multitude
I feel that I am one
And in that din of voices rude
I recognize my own.

Around the cross the throng I see
Mocking the Sufferer’s groan
Yet still my voice it seems to be
As if I mocked alone.

Horatius Bonar

3. Reason – One Savior for the Whole World

a. Sign: Moral Example

Popular Idea > CROSS is Profound EXAMPLE: Be NOBLE Like Jesus

I could accept Jesus as a martyr, an embodiment of sacrifice, and a divine teacher, but not as the most perfect man ever born. His death on the cross was a great example to the world, but that there was anything like a mysterious or miraculous virtue in it, my heart could not accept.

M. Gandhi

PROFOUND MISTAKE > PRIMARY Message of CROSS is we’re NOT GOOD

FIRST thing Cross Should do is HUMBLE US > Lead to REPENTANCE, FAITH
PRIDE Rebels against this HUMBLING > Not THAT Bad!! – SOME Good in Us!

NEW CAKE MIX > ONLY Add Water > Stir > Bake > Enjoy Great Cake!
 PRODUCT TEST > FAILURE > NOT ENOUGH WORK > Too Easy for Cook
 Changed Formula > Add Water AND ONE EGG > Now Cook MAKING CAKE!

Relation w/GOD > Look at WHAT I DID! > God did 99% of Work > I Laid EGG!
 Sin of LEGALISM > Proud Notion WE EARN FAVOR with God > Our WORKS

WHAT Righteousness do WE HAVE to BE SELF RIGHTEOUS ABOUT?

IF you FULLY TRUSTING in HIS Righteousness ALONE > Cross IS EXAMPLE

Husbands, love your wives, *just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy*
 Ephesians 5:25-26

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And *we ought to lay down our lives* for our brothers.
 1 John 3:16

In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who *while testifying before Pontius Pilate* made the good confession, I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame...
 1 Timothy 6:13-14

GOSPEL Writers tell Story of Suffering Jesus as WARNING to FOLLOWERS

Giving to Gain / Dying to Live / Greatness of Serving / Measuring Time by Eternity
 WORLD HATED those Values in JESUS > Will HATE them in His FOLLOWERS

Also WARNS those who think ADVANCE KINGDOM of God thru the STATE
 Our Lord Jesus SUFFERED under PONTIUS PILATE

OR If you think Jesus came to make you HAPPY, HEALTHY, RICH, PAIN-FREE
 You have CLOSED YOUR EYES to this CROSS!!

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
 1 Peter 2:21

b. Substitute: Blood Atonement > Heart of Bible's Message of Jesus

RANSOM: Payment of PRICE / REDEMPTION: Slave Released by Payment

Jesus clearly DEFINES His MISSION: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

What happened to him happened to us. When he was condemned, we were condemned. When he died, we died. We were included in his death. Miroslav Volf

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures
1 Corinthians 15:3

5 X's the QURAN: JESUS (ISA) did NOT DIE on the CROSS
'no soul shall bear another's burden...each man shall reap the fruit of his own deeds'
The Koran liii.38, xxv.18

Gospel to MUSLIM MAN – RESPONSE > You're WOMAN, Not Real MAN!
"I am REAL MAN – I will pay for MY OWN SINS!"

RESPONSE > God will Allow you to PAY for YOUR OWN Sins = called HELL PAYMENT Takes ALL of ETERNITY > If you want to Pay It > You're Welcome!

CRITICS > Christian's Make CROSS a CRUTCH > Some MAY, NOT ME!
Would not Know what do with Crutch > I Need STRETCHER, 4 Guys to Lift Me

Without JESUS I am DEAD IN SIN > ABSOLUTELY HELPLESS before God

He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.
Isaiah 53:5

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people Hebrews 9:28

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree 1 Peter 2:24

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
2 Corinthians 5:21

When I See the Cross: 1st > I did it by my Sins AND 2nd > God did it by His Love

If the Cross of Christ is anything to the mind, it is surely everything – the most profound reality and sublimest mystery. One comes to realize that all the wealth and glory of the gospel centers here...The more unbelievers deny its crucial character, the more do believers find in it the key to the mysteries of sin and suffering. We rediscover the apostolic emphasis on the Cross when we read the Gospel with Moslems. We find that, although the offence of the Cross remains, its magnetic power is irresistible. Samuel Zwemer

He loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 John 4:10

c. Sovereign: Divine Victory

Christ's death was not just a monstrous mistake, or miscarriage of justice. It was an accomplishment of extraordinary significance. Donald Cole

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ 2 Corinthians 5:19

Understandable why MUSLIMS want to PROTECT – Honored Prophet 'ISA
If He is GREAT SERVANT of Allah – How could HE Suffer such SHAME??

CROSS is NOT the SHAME of JESUS > It was HIS GLORY
With WIDE-EYED Courage HE EMBRACED It > HE FORCED it to HAPPEN

ISA could have RUN from Heat in JERUSALEM // Muhammad fled to Medina

They were on their way up to Jerusalem, *with Jesus leading the way*, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise." Mark 10:32-34

Cross NOT TRAGEDY > TRIUMPH of DETERMINED Savior to Fulfill Mission

Jesus: "I lay down my life-only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again."
John 10.17,18

CRUSHED Head of Serpent / SET Captives Free / TRIUMPHED over Sin & Death

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Galatians 6:14

NO EXACT Equivalent in ENGLISH

to boast, to glory in, to take pride in, to revel in, to live for

Let others be obsessed with money, success, fame, sex or power; those who follow Christ should be obsessed with him and his cross. John Stott

PLAY "The Long Silence" – At the end of time, billions of people were scattered on a great plain before God's throne. Most shrank back from the brilliant light before them. But some groups near the front talked heatedly – not with cringing shame, but with belligerence. 'Can God judge us? How can he know about suffering?' snapped a pert young brunette. She ripped open a sleeve to reveal a tattooed number from a Nazi concentration camp. 'We endured terror...beatings...torture...death!' In another group a Negro man lowered his collar. 'What about this?' he demanded, showing an ugly rope burn. 'Lynched...for no crime but being black!' In another crowd, a pregnant schoolgirl with sullen eyes. 'Why should I suffer' she murmured, 'It wasn't my fault.' Far out across the plain there were hundreds of such groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil suffering he permitted in his world. How lucky God was to live in heaven where all was sweetness and light, where there was no weeping or fear, or hunger or hatred. What did God know of all that man had been forced to endure in this world? For God leads a pretty sheltered life, they said. So each of these groups sent forth their leader, chosen because he had suffered the most. A Jew, a Negro, a person from Hiroshima, a horribly deformed arthritic, a child born with deformity. In the center of the plain they consulted each other. At last they were ready to present their case. It was rather clever. Before God could be qualified to judge, he must endure what

they had endured. Their decision was that God should be sentenced to live on earth – as a man! ‘Let him be born a Jew. Let the legitimacy of his birth be doubted. Give him work so difficult that even his family will think him out of his mind when he tries to do it. Let him be betrayed by his closest friends. Let him face false charges, be tried by a prejudiced jury and convicted by a cowardly judge. Let him be tortured. ‘At the last, let him see what it means to be terribly alone. Then let him die. Let him die to that there can be no doubt that he died. Let there be a great host of witnesses to verify it.’ As each leader announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the throng of people assembled. And when the last had finished pronouncing the sentence, there was a long silence. No one uttered another word. No one moved. For suddenly all knew that God had already served his sentence.”

Mark 15:1-15

1 Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.

2 "Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate.

"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.

3 The chief priests accused him of many things. 4 So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of."

5 But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

6 Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. 7 A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. 8 The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

9 "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, 10 knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

12 "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them.

13 "Crucify him!" they shouted.

14 "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

15 Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.
