

THE GOSPEL OF
MARK®
servant **KING**

CHAPTER 15
**THE SERVANT FINISHES HIS WORK;
IT IS THE DAY OF CRUCIFIXION.**

Jesus was born to die so men could live. This was God’s plan from the beginning of time. If you have ever questioned the truth that you are loved, come back to the gospel. Come back to the cross. Today, we have entered Holy ground. We see Jesus the Lamb of God willingly endure tortures emotionally, physically, and spiritually and, then obediently, He goes to His death, so you and I can live eternally with Him forever—if we acknowledge Him as our Lord and Savior. “For God so loved (your name), He sent His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). Have you accepted this truth for your life?

MEMORY VERSE

And Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed His last. Mark 15:37

“So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit” (John19:30).

Read Mark 15 prayerfully. Take time to go through each verse, savoring every word in your heart, thanking Jesus for His love and sacrifice for you.

JESUS FACES PILATE

1. Once again, for the third time, Jesus stood before the Jewish authorities (v.1).
 - a. What time of day was it, and what was decided?

 - b. Who was Jesus then delivered to?

- c. How was He sent?
- d. According to John, why didn't the religious leaders follow Jesus into the Praetorium (John 18:28)?
- e. Because the Jews would not enter the Praetorium, Pilate came out to them. What did Pilate ask the crowd?
- f. What was their answer? (John 18:29-30)

“Now, no doubt the charges that they brought against Jesus were charges of insurrection against Rome, claiming that He was a king. And they did throw in the charge, though it was a false charge that He said they should not pay taxes to Caesar. So basically, the only charges that they could bring against the Rome court against Jesus would be insurrection against Rome. And these would be capital offenses for which He could be put to death.” *Pastor Chuck Smith*

- 2. In this back and forth conversation between Pilate and the Jews, how was prophecy fulfilled? (See John 18:31-32; Mark 14:64; Matt. 26:65; Psalm 22:14, 16-17.) (Also, see Acts 2:23; 3:13.)

“...the Sanhedrin could condemn Jesus to die, but they could not carry out the execution. Only Rome could do that. Therefore, this body had to appeal to the Roman court for the execution of the death penalty that they had decided upon. Now the charge which they had brought against Him in the Sanhedrin would never stand up before Pilate. So they met early the next morning to formulate charges that would stand up before the Roman court and would make *legal* the illegal action of the night before.” *J. Vernon McGee*

DID YOU KNOW?

The penalty for blasphemy was death by stoning (Leviticus 24:10-16).

- 3. What was the first question Pilate asked of Jesus?

- a. How did Jesus answer and how do you respond to accusations that are not true?
 - b. How did Jesus respond to the chief priests (vv.2-3)?
 - c. What does Pilate then say to the chief priests and the crowd (Luke 23:4)?
4. Pilate continued questioning Jesus (vv.4-5). (Also see Matt. 27:13-14.)
- a. According to Mark, what were Pilate's next two questions?
 - b. How did Jesus respond and what does this teach you?
 - c. What was Pilate's reaction?

TAKING THE PLACE OF BARABBAS

5. As was the custom, one prisoner could be released during the feast.
- a. Who did Pilate offer to release?
 - b. What did Pilate call Jesus? Who did the crowd demand instead to be released?
 - c. What did Pilate know about the chief priests and the rioting crowd (vv.6-11)?
6. According to Mark, what two questions did Pilot pose to the crowd (vv.12-14)?
- 1)
 - 2)
 - a. What was the crowd determined to do to Jesus?

- b. Who did Pilate release and what did he do to Jesus (v.15)? (Also see John 19:1.)

DIG DEEPER

Pilate had enough evidence of Jesus's innocence. Who was really on trial—Jesus or Pilate? Look up the following verses to answer the question:

- Mark 15:2-5, 15
- Matthew 27:19-25
- Luke 23:4, 14-25
- John 18:33-38; 19:9-14

DID YOU KNOW?

The name Barabbas in Arabic is Bar-abba = literally, "son of the father." Barabbas was released. Jesus, the true Son of the Father, was crucified.

By saying nothing, Jesus is revealing who He is (See Isaiah 53:7). Who is He?

PERSONAL

Jesus confronted Pilate with truth, which Pilate refused to receive. You have been confronted with truth throughout the book of Mark. How have you received the truth? What will you do with this truth about Jesus?

JESUS IS BEATEN AND MOCKED

7. Before Pilate handed Jesus over to the crowd to be crucified, what did he have done to Him?
- a. Describe the scene as Jesus was led back into the Praetorium. Who was there (vv.15-16)?
- b. What Prophecies are fulfilled? (See Isaiah 53:5, 7,8b,10a.)

8. The soldiers gathered together to mock and scorn Jesus.
 - a. What did they clothe Jesus in (v.17)?
 - b. What was put upon His head (v.17)? (Also see Matt. 27:29.)
 - c. As they saluted Him, how did they mock Him (v.18)? (Also see Matt. 27:29.)
 - d. How did they physically abuse Jesus and mock His deity (v.19)?

THE KING ON A CROSS

9. After a morning of inhuman suffering, the Romans led Jesus away to be crucified. It is believed Jesus carried the cross to the city gates, but the soldiers compelled someone to bear Jesus's cross beyond the city gates (v.21). Has anyone helped you carry a burden? Explain.
10. As Jesus made His journey with the cross, who followed after Him? What did Jesus say to them (Luke 23:27-31)?
11. Where was Jesus crucified (v.22)?
 - a. What was Jesus offered to drink and what was done with His clothes (vv.23-24)?
 - b. Read Psalm 22:18; what prophecy is being fulfilled?
 - c. What was the inscription of Jesus's accusation (v.26)?

12. Who was at the foot of the cross with Jesus? How did Jesus care for His mother as he was dying on the cross (vv.40-41)? (Also see John 19:25-27.)

13. Who was crucified next to Jesus (vv.27-28)?

- a. What prophecy was fulfilled (Isaiah 53:12)?
- b. How did Jesus minister to them as He was dying (Luke 23:39-43)?

14. As Jesus hung on the cross, people blasphemed Him.

- a. What are some things passersby shouted at Him (vv.29-30)?
- b. What did the chief priests and scribes say among themselves (vv.31-32)?

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

As Jesus hung on the cross, what happened in the sixth hour? For how long (v.34)?

15. In the ninth hour, Jesus cried out.
- a. What did he say and which Psalm is this from?

DID YOU KNOW?

“The Jews reckoned time from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., so this means that the third hour was 9:00 a.m., the sixth hour noon, and the ninth hour 3:00 p.m. Mark followed the Jewish system, whereas the apostle John used Roman time in his gospel. This means that “the sixth hour” in John 19:14 is 6:00 a.m.”

Warren Wiersbe

- b. As Jesus cried out, who did people assume He was calling out to for help (vv.35-36)?

c. What other details does John give in his gospel (John 19:28-30)?

16. After Jesus our Passover Lamb had died, what fulfilled prophecies does John include concerning His body (John 19:31-37)?

DIG DEEPER

Fulfilled prophecies:

- Exodus 12:46
- Numbers 9:12:
- Psalm 34:20:
- Zechariah 12:10; 13:6

From the combined gospels, list the seven last statements of Jesus as He hung on the cross:

Three before the darkness came in the sixth hour:

- 1) Luke 23:34
- 2) Luke 23:43
- 3) John 19:26-27

After the darkness, four more in the ninth hour:

- 4) Mark 15:34; Matthew 27:46; Psalm 22:1
- 5) John 19:28
- 6) John 19:30
- 7) Luke 23:46; Psalm 31:5

DID YOU KNOW?

“When the darkness came, there was silence on His cross, for it was then that He was made sin for us.”

Warren Wiersbe

17. As Jesus cried out and breathed His last, what happened immediately in the Temple? What additional information does Matthew give (v.38)? (Also see Matt. 27:51-53.)

18. What was the reaction of the centurion who stood by the cross? Who else was looking on from afar (vv.38-41)? (Also see Matt, 27:54; Luke 23:47-49.)

JESUS IS BURIED

19. In the evening of the Preparation Day, who came to Pilate and what was his request (v.43)?
 - a. What does Mark tell us about the character of this man?
 - b. What does Matthew, Luke and John add about this man? (See Matt. 27:57; Luke 23:50; John 19:38.)
 - c. Who accompanied him (John19:39)?
20. Jesus was lovingly prepared for His burial (v.46). (Also see John 19:40.)
 - a. Where was Jesus laid to rest?
 - b. What does Matthew and John add to the details of the tomb? (See Matt. 28:60; John 19:41.)
 - c. What prophecy was thus fulfilled (Isaiah 53:9)?
 - d. How was the tomb secured (v.46)? (Also see Matt. 27:62-66.)
21. Who observed this burial (v.47)? (Also see Matt. 27:61; Luke 23:55.)

DWELL ON THIS

Look up “How Deep the Father’s Love” by Stuart Townsend and meditate on the words in this hymn. What does it say to you?

