



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

MARK 15:16-39

LESSON: JESUS BEARS GOD'S WRATH—March 29, 2026

INTRODUCTION:

Verses 1–5 – Jesus Before Pilate

¹At daybreak the Sanhedrin hands Jesus over to the Roman governor. Pilate questions Him: “Are You the King of the Jews?” Jesus answers, “You have said so.” The chief priests pour out accusations; Jesus remains mostly silent, astonishing Pilate.

Verses 6–15 – Barabbas Released, Jesus Condemned

Pilate follows the Passover custom of releasing a prisoner. The crowd is stirred up by the chief priests who demands freedom for Barabbas, a violent rebel, and calls for Jesus to be crucified. Though Pilate knows Jesus is innocent, he gives in to the crowd, ordering Him to be flogged and handed over for crucifixion.

LESSON:

I. MARK 15:16-20

15:16 And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band. Barabbas had been released, and Jesus was flogged. Now, the Roman soldiers have authority over Jesus, and they took Him into the courtyard of the governor’s headquarters (called the Praetorium) and called out the entire regiment, consisting of several hundred soldiers (2-600). This was a large court within the palace itself.

15:17 And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head,— Jesus was abused physically: They taunted and mocked Him; stripping Him, and taking an old faded, worn-out soldier’s purple (symbolizing royalty) cloak; a robe they draped upon His bleeding body. Then they made a crown of platted thorns to place upon His head which pierced into His brow. They wanted to demean Jesus.

15:18 And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!—They began to mock and jeer Jesus as they declared “Hail, King of the Jews”, of which they did not believe. The courtesy they would show to a human king was not what they did for Jesus, who is the King of kings—the Ultimate King!

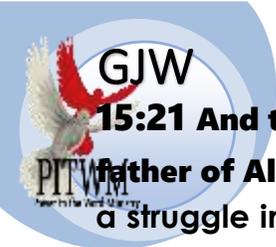
15:19 And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him. The soldiers struck and beat Jesus on the head with a reed, even spitting and bowing their knees in ridicule of fake worship. It shows the depth of human depravity!

15:20 And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him. After mocking Jesus, they took off the purple robe, and put His own clothing back upon Him, leading Him out to be crucified.

II. MARK 15:21-32

¹ <https://mail.biblehub.com/chaptersummaries/mark/15.htm>
<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

15:21 And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross. At this time, carrying the cross had become a struggle in carrying it, so the soldiers compelled; forced Simon of Cyrene who was passing by to help bear; carry the cross. Nothing happens by chance. God oversees all things, and this was in the plan of God. Simon was coming out of the country of his sons Alexander and Rufus. This one encounter can show a transformation in life of conversion. The symbol and application refer to the man who takes up; picks up the cross, and dies to self, he will be converted, and become a true follower of Christ (Luke 9:23).

15:22 And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull. Golgotha is a symbol of death; the place of a skull. This is the place they bring Jesus, on a hill outside of Jerusalem where executions took place. He was to die to deliver all men from the bondage of eternal death.

15:23 And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not. The drink (wine mingled with myrrh) they decide to give Jesus was strong and intoxicating, deadening the senses to some degree. It was given to crucifixion victims as a narcotic to somewhat ease the pain. But Jesus refused it! He took the full blunt of the pain for us!

15:24 And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. They did not respect Jesus' mother who was standing by the cross (John 19:25), for they decided to gamble for Jesus' garments (by casting lots), prophesied in Psalm 22:18 as to who would take it. John 19:23 speaks of four parts to every soldier, but the garment was seamless, one piece of cloth, woven from the top to the bottom, so, they could not tare or cut it. Thereby the casting of lots would only go to one of the four soldiers. Thereby, fulfilling Scripture!

15:25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

- Jesus was crucified in the third hour which is 9AM.
- Darkness overed the land about the sixth hour until the ninth hour which is Noon to 3PM. (Matt.27:46; Lk.23:44).
- Jesus died the ninth hour which is 3PM.

“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” Romans 5:8.

15:26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, The King Of The Jews. The sign placed above Jesus' head by Pilate had the superscription of His accusation written on it—*“The king of the Jews.”* This was Jesus' indictment! This was a mockery to the Jewish authorities, and to show criticism towards Jesus' claim. However, God overruled, and used the title to proclaim the truth of Jesus' Lordship to the whole world in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew

15:27 And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. Jesus was crucified for our sins, along with the two criminals—one on the right, and one on the left in order to bring us to God. He was dying because of them and because of all other men. Why? - Because all men are criminals against God, rebelling against Him and breaking His commandments.

15:28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

The prophesy in Isaih 53:12c is fulfilled here. These two thieves; sinners He's numbered with.

15:29 And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days,—Mockers taking shot at what Jesus had said, but don't know what He meant. They're passing by doing a wagging motion with their heads which showed insult, contempt, and mockery. They didn't like what Jesus said (1.) He claimed to have power to destroy and rebuild the temple. (2.) He claimed to be the Son of God. They misunderstood the Temple. They misunderstood the Resurrection. They were thinking physical, while Jesus was speaking Spiritually. They were thinking He's merely a man, while Jesus is the Divine Son of God with all power!

15:30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross. The people also chanted "*Save yourself and come down from the cross.*" He could have, but He would not. Like He told Peter when Peter cut off the servant of the high priest's ear, that He could have prayed to His Father to give Him more than twelve legions of angels (72,000) in Matthew 26:53. No, Jesus was in purpose!

15:31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, He saved others; himself he cannot save. The religionists (chief priests, scribes, and elders) were also mocking Jesus: Well, "*He saved others: Himself He cannot save!*" Matthew added: "*If He be the King of Israel...*" They misunderstood Jesus' Messiahship! The average person mocks and abuses Christ from day to day. How? (1.) By ridiculing Christ's claim to be the Son of God. (2.) By cursing and profaning the Name of Jesus. (3.) By challenging Christ to prove His power by meeting their needs when they had not lived for Christ. (4.) By acting worse toward Christ and His followers than toward the rest of society, even criminals.

15:32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him. If the King of Israel descended from the cross, they still wouldn't have believed with their own eyes. They were so set on proving Jesus wrong, and even the ones that were crucified with Him reviled (insulting and condemning) Him, that they couldn't see that Truth was before them!

III. MARK 15:33-39

15:33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. The people weren't ready for this, for at the sixth hour (Noon to 3PM) darkness appeared over all the earth until the ninth hour. Even the sun became dark and did not shine. It was a symbol of separation and loneliness. The darkness told man something: 1) Man was separated from the light. 2) Man stood all alone. The Jewish day consisted of 12 hours. The start of the day was sunrise. The end of the day was at sunset. Sin deserved no light from God's presence.

15:34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?— And at the ninth hour (3PM) *Jesus cried out with all the breath He had with a loud voice Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?* This was the moment of the great separation when Jesus sensed that God had withdrawn His





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

presence; withdrawn His deliverance. Why? For Jesus was bearing the curse of God, the curse of separation, the curse of judgment and condemnation of God 's anger against sin. Jesus sensed that life and holiness had left Him (the man part), and that He had been delivered into the hands of sin and death which was foreign to Jesus. Jesus had to bear the penalty due man—the penalty of separation from a perfectly holy God, so we would never have to experience eternal separation from God! He took our place!

15:35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias. Yes, they misunderstood the mysterious loud cry, thinking Jesus was calling for Elias (Elijah).

Who was on the cross?

- God's only begotten Son, the Sovereign Lord of all beings, visible and invisible (Colo.1:16).
- The great Architect and Creator of the whole universe, of all nature.

What was He doing there on the cross?

- Bearing the sins of all men
- Bearing the judgment and wrath of God's anger against sin for all men.
- Dying the death for all men.
- Dying all that was necessary to free men from sin, death, and judgment so that they might live forever.

15:36 And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down. Jesus did not ask for a drink, however, *“One ran to take a sponge and fill it with vinegar, putting it on the reed to reach Him, to give Him something to drink,”* but he mocked Jesus by saying *“Leave Him alone, let's see whether Elias will come take Him down?”*

15:37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. With Jesus' last breath; last loud cry, He yielded His Spirit to God. This He willingly done! In John 19:30 Jesus cried, **IT IS FINISHED!**

I Am the Door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture... I Am the Good Shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep... As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep... Therefore, doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself, I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father (Jh10:9, 11, 15, 17-18). THIS IS WHY HE CAN SAY IT IS FINISHED!

15:38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom. The veil that was torn was the inner veil, the curtain which separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. The Holy of Holies was the most sacred part of the temple; the place where the very presence of God was, symbolizing His dwelling place. It was closed to everyone except the high priest that entered once a year on the Day of Atonement for the sins of man (Heb.9:7). The veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom specifying that no mere man could have done this. It was torn by an act of God Himself. God gave us direct access into His presence. Now any man can enter the presence of God anytime; anyplace! (Heb.10:19-13). Come and draw near to God with boldness because of the blood of Jesus, for He as our living High Priest has given us access!

15:39 And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God. Truly, God left no stone unturned, He left a message with an unbelieving Gentile centurion Roman soldier that stood in front of Him. He saw how Jesus cried out and gave up the ghost—took His last breath. What was the trigger of how he felt seeing Jesus which caused him to make this confession from his mouth? *"Truly this man was the Son of God!"* A person's excruciating cry can cause you to have empathy, forcing you to feel the pain of others. However, he heard more than Jesus' cry. It all flooded back to him: **Matt.27:50-54; Lk.23:45-47; Jh.19:32-37.** Nobody but God could bring him to this glorious truth!

SUMMARY:

16 Now, the Roman soldiers have authority over Jesus, and they took Him into the courtyard of the governor's headquarters (called the Praetorium) and called out the entire regiment. **17** Jesus was abused physically: taunting, mocking, and stripping Him; and placing an old faded purple cloak; robe upon His bleeding body, then making a crown of platted thorns to place upon His head. **18** They began to mock and jeer Jesus as they declared *"Hail, King of the Jews"*, of which they did not believe. **19** The soldiers struck and beat Jesus on the head with a reed, even spitting and bowing their knees in ridicule of fake worship. **20** After mocking Jesus, they took off the purple robe, and put His own clothing back upon Him, leading Him out to be crucified (**15:16-20**).

21 Carrying the cross had become a struggle for Jesus, so the soldiers compelled; forced Simon of Cyrene who was passing by to help bear; carry the cross. **22** They brought Jesus to the place of Golgotha, a symbol of death on a hill outside of Jerusalem which means *"the place of a skull"* where executions took place. He was to die to deliver all men from the bondage of eternal death. **23** *"They gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not."* **24** When they had crucified Jesus, they parted His garments, thereby the casting of lots would only go to one of the four soldiers. Thereby, fulfilling Scripture! **25** And it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. **26** They placed a sign above His head with the superscription of His accusation—*"The king of the Jews."* **27** Jesus was crucified for our sins, along with the two criminals—one on the right, and one on the left. **28** And the scripture was fulfilled again, which saith, *"And he was numbered with the transgressors."* **29** Mockers passed by criticized Him, wagging their heads, and saying, *"Ah, You gon destroy the temple, and build it in three days."* **30** They recited *"Save yourself and come down from the cross."* **31** The religionists (chief priests, scribes, and elders) were also mocking Jesus: Well, *"He saved others: Himself He cannot save!"* **32** We want to see, then we'll believe *"Let Christ the King of Israel will descend now from the cross."* Even the ones on the cross with Him to be crucified insulted and condemned Him (**15:21-32**).

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. **34** *“At that ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”* **35** *“And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias.”* **36** *But “one ran to take a sponge and fill it with vinegar, putting it on the reed to reach Him, to give Him something to drink,” saying “Leave Him alone, let’s see whether Elias will come take Him down?”* **37** *“And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.”* **38** *“And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to the bottom.”* **39** *“And when the centurion, which stood in front of Jesus, saw that He cried out, and gave up the ghost.”* The centurion said, *“Truly this man was the Son of God.”* **(15:33-39).**