

Messiah Suffers (Good Friday)

(Passages from the Gospel of Luke)

Reading #1 Luke 22:47-53 (ESV)

- While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- ⁴⁹ And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.
- 52 Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? 53 When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

Reading #2 Luke 22:63-71 (ESV)

Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. ⁶⁴ They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?" ⁶⁵ And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

- 66 When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, 67 "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, 68 and if I ask you, you will not answer. 69 But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God."
- ⁷⁰ So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." ⁷¹ Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips."

Reading #3 Luke 23:13-25 (ESV)

- Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵ Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us.
- Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶ I will therefore punish and release him."

Reading #3 Luke 23:13-25 (ESV)

- Now he was obliged to release one man to them at the festival.
- ¹⁸ But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— ¹⁹ a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.
- ²⁰ Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹ but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²² A third time he said to them, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." ²³ But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.
- ²⁴ So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

Reading #4 Luke 23:32-43 (ESV)

- Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.
- ³⁴ And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"
- ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Reading #4 Luke 23:32-43 (ESV)

- One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
- ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
- 42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- 43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Reading #5 Luke 23:44-49 (ESV)

- It was now about the sixth hour [noon], and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour [3:00pm], ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
- 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.
- ⁴⁷ Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"
- ⁴⁸ And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.
- ⁴⁹ And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

The Fickle Crowd

Enthusiasm on Palm Sunday

• As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" (Luke 19:37-38).

Condemnation on Good Friday

• Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹ but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" (Luke 23:20)

The Parable of the Four Soils: The Seeds with No Roots

- A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed . . . some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. . .
- And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. (Luke 8:5-6,13)

The Crowd Expects a Military Messiah (1)

Worldly Power Through Brute Strength:

 Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹ but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" (Luke 22:47)

Following the Ways of the World, Not of Jesus

And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. (Luke 22:49-50)

The Way of Jesus:

• But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. (Luke 22:51)

The Crowd Expects a Military Messiah (2)

Worldly Power Through Brute Strength:

• Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. (Luke 22:63)

Following the Ways of the World, Not of Jesus

• When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, ⁶⁷ "If you are the Christ, tell us." (Luke 22:66-67)

The Way of Jesus:

 But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, 68 and if I ask you, you will not answer. (Luke 22:67-68)

The Crowds Expects a Military Messiah (3)

- Following the Ways of the World, Not of Jesus:
- Now he was obliged to release one man to them at the festival.
- 18 But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— 19 a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.
- ²⁰ Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹ but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²² A third time he said to them, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." ²³ But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.
- ²⁴ So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will. (Luke 23:17-25)

The Crowds Expects a Military Messiah (4)

Worldly Power Through Brute Strength:

• Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. . . The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." (Luke 23:32-33, 36-38)

Following the Ways of the World, Not of Jesus

• The rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" (Luke 23:35)

The Way of Jesus:

 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)

The Crowds Expects a Military Messiah (4)

- Following the Ways of the World, Not of Jesus
- One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" (Luke 23:39)

The Way of Jesus:

- But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
- 42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- ⁴³ And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:40-43)

The Crowds Expects a Military Messiah (5)

The Way of Jesus:

- It was now about the sixth hour [noon], and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour [3:00pm], 45 while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
- 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.
- 47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"
- 48 And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.
- ⁴⁹ And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Do Not Trust in Strong, "Worldly" Leaders

- ⁷Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.
 - ⁸ They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright. (Psalm 20:7-8)

Follow the Way of the Lord

• Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to all men, the Lord is at hand. (Philippians 4:4-5)

The Suffering Servant Isaiah 53:3-6

- ³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
 yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

The Suffering Servant Isaiah 53:3-6

- ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

