



**Good Friday:**  
**The Passion of Christ**  
(Selections 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, <sup>48</sup> but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- <sup>49</sup> And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" <sup>50</sup> And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>51</sup> But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.
- <sup>52</sup> 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? <sup>53</sup> 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. <sup>64</sup> They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" <sup>65</sup> And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

- <sup>66</sup> 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, <sup>67</sup> "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, <sup>68</sup> and if I ask you, you will not answer. <sup>69</sup> But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God."
- <sup>70</sup> So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." <sup>71</sup> 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, <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us.
- Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. <sup>16</sup> 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.
- <sup>18</sup> But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— <sup>19</sup> a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.
- <sup>20</sup> Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, <sup>21</sup> but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" <sup>22</sup> 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." <sup>23</sup> But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed.
- <sup>24</sup> So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> 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.
- <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup> 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!"
- <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> 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!"
- <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
- <sup>42</sup> And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- <sup>43</sup> 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], <sup>45</sup> while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
- <sup>46</sup> 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.
- <sup>47</sup> Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"
- <sup>48</sup> And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.
- <sup>49</sup> 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, <sup>38</sup> 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, <sup>21</sup> but they kept shouting, “**Crucify, crucify him!**” (Luke 23:20)

# The Parable of the Four Soils

- 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)
- <sup>7</sup> And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. . . .
- <sup>14</sup> And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are **choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life**, and their fruit does not mature. (Luke 8:7, 14)

# The Crowd Expects a Military Messiah (1)

- **Worldly Power Through Brute Strength:**
- Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, <sup>21</sup> 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?" <sup>50</sup> 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, <sup>67</sup> "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,** <sup>68</sup> 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.
- <sup>18</sup> But **they all cried out together**, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— <sup>19</sup> a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.
- <sup>20</sup> Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, <sup>21</sup> but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" <sup>22</sup> 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." <sup>23</sup> But **they were urgent, demanding** with loud cries that he should be crucified. **And their voices prevailed.**
- <sup>24</sup> So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> 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 <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> 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 (5)

- **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? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed justly, for **we are receiving the due reward of our deeds**; but this man has done nothing wrong."
- <sup>42</sup> And he said, "**Jesus, remember me** when you come into your kingdom."
- <sup>43</sup> 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 (6)

- **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], <sup>45</sup> while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
- <sup>46</sup> 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.
- <sup>47</sup> Now when **the centurion** saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"
- <sup>48</sup> And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, **returned home beating their breasts.**
- <sup>49</sup> 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

- <sup>7</sup> Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but **we trust in the name of the LORD our God.**
- <sup>8</sup> 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

**<sup>3</sup> 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.

- **<sup>4</sup> 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

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
**and (c.) with his wounds we are healed.**

<sup>6</sup> **(a.) All we like sheep have gone astray;**  
**we have turned—every one—to his own way;**  
and **(b.) the Lord has laid on him**  
**the iniquity of us all.**

A silhouette of two hands holding a glowing cross against a sunset background. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The cross is a simple, bright white symbol that glows with a soft, golden light, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. In the top left corner, there is a small, solid orange horizontal bar.

**Let Us Pray**