

of voice Pilate said, "You are the king of the Jews?" ([John 18:33](#), NASV). You can see Pilate burning at the answer Christ gives ([John 18:34-35](#)), but Pilate could find no fault in Christ ([John 18:36-38](#)).

Our Lord is then taken to Herod Antipas, the tetrarch of Judea ([Luke 23:5-11](#)). Jesus remains silent before Herod. We are reminded of the words of the prophet of God, "He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not his mouth" ([Isa. 53:7](#)). Again He is mocked, a gorgeous robe is placed on Him, and He is then sent back to Pilate.

In response to a mob, Pilate offers to release either Jesus or a notorious thief and murderer called Barabas ([Matt. 27:15-18, 21](#)). The mob demands that Christ be crucified and Barabas be set free. Can you think of a more humiliating thing for Christ to endure? The firstborn of all creation compared to a filthy felon! We see the full meaning of John's statement, ([John 1:11](#), "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him" ([John 1:11](#)).

Preparation For The Crucifixion

Pilate orders that Jesus be scourged ([Matt. 27:26](#)). Christ was not whipped, flogged or striped -- He was scourged! The Romans called it "halfway death" -- it could only be administered by a trained Roman "lictor." Jesus was stripped of all His clothing and His hands were tied above His head. The lictor would use a flagellum -- a leather whip made up with thongs of leather. Each strip had a piece of bone or lead tied to the ends so it would cut deeper into the flesh. Josephus speaks of a man named Ananus who was "whipped until his bones were bare." Eusebius speaks of a martyr in Smyrna who was scourged until "the deepest veins and arteries were exposed, and even the inner organs of the body were seen." Here we recall the words of Isaiah, "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed" ([Isa. 53:5](#)).

Christ is then untied, falls to the floor, and is given a scarlet robe, a crown of thorns and reed ([Matt. 27:27-31](#)). While He is blindfolded, the soldiers mock him. Again, we hear Isaiah say of Him, "I gave My back to those who struck Me, and My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting" ([Isa. 50:6](#)). As the blood around His open wounds begins to clot, the soldiers rip the robe off and His wounds begin bleeding again. It is my understanding that Pilate only wanted to scourge Christ, but when the people charged that he was not properly defending Caesar, he order Christ to be crucified on a Roman cross (cf. [Luke 23:16](#)).

To Be Continued Next Week...

Location

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Our Service Times

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
AM Worship 10:30 a.m.
PM Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Records

January 22

Bible Class 80
AM Worship 94
PM Worship 61
Contribution \$2827

January 25

Bible Class 76

Missions Supported

World Video Bible School
Ryan & Kelly O'Rourke in
Galway, Ireland
Ray & Sally Leonard in Cape
Town, South Africa
Hasbrouck Mission-Sapporo,
Japan



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January 29, 2012

The Crucifixion of Christ

David Padfield

On the Sunday before His death on the cross, Jesus triumphantly entered the city of Jerusalem. On that Monday, He spoke of His impending death ([John 12:27-33](#)). The death of Christ embraces the sum and total of our salvation.

The story of the cross was the theme of the apostles ([1 Cor. 2:1-2](#)). Paul was not a social reformer nor a political activist. He gloried not in titles, but in the cross ([Gal. 6:14](#)). The plain and simple story of the cross will exalt Christ and draw men to His bleeding side. The crucifixion of Jesus Christ is the foundation of the gospel ([1 Cor. 15:1-3](#)).

Why Did Christ Have To Die?

Our sins have separated us from God ([Ezek. 18:20](#); [Isa. 59:1-2](#); [Rom. 3:23](#)), and the punishment for sin is death ([Rom. 6:23](#)).

In order for sins to be removed, blood had to be shed ([Heb. 9:22](#)). In the Old Testament instead of man dying, God allowed an animal to die ([Heb. 10:4](#)). Think of all the lambs slain from the days of Abel till Christ. On a normal Passover day in the first century over 250,000 lambs would be slain.

Picture the scene as [John the Baptist](#) sees Jesus walking toward him, and hear John say, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ([John 1:29](#)). How fitting that the Lamb of God be born in a stable ([Luke 2:1-7](#))! It is interesting that His first visitors were [shepherds](#) ([Luke 2:8-20](#)).

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone." ([Heb. 2:9](#)).

The Betrayal Of Christ

On the Thursday evening before His betrayal, Christ partook of one last Passover meal with His disciples ([Matt. 26:26-29](#)). After supper, He passes through the Golden Gate and then crosses over the Kidron Valley and enters the [Garden of Gethsemane](#). His "hour" had now come -- He prayed that the "cup" would pass from Him ([Matt. 26:36-39](#)).

Later that evening, soldiers from the chief priests come with swords and clubs ([Matt. 26:47](#)). Judas betrays our Lord with a kiss ([Matt. 26:48-50](#)). Peter cuts off the right ear of Malchus ([Matt. 26:51-53](#)). Jesus reminds Peter that He could have called for twelve legions of angels to save Him from this death.

The Son Of God On Trial

Christ is brought before the Sanhedrin and Caiaphas the High Priest -- even though it was illegal for the Sanhedrin to put anyone on trial at night. "Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward" ([Matt. 26:59-60](#)). "Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, 'He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy!'" ([Matt. 27:65](#)).

Our Lord is then struck, beaten, spat upon and mocked ([Matt. 26:67-68](#)). During this mockery, Peter denies Him three times ([Matt. 26:69-75](#)). Luke tells us that the Lord looked at Peter ([Luke 22:61](#)). "Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and ... went and hanged himself" ([Matt. 27:3-10](#)).

It is now early in the morning and Jesus is battered and bruised, dehydrated and exhausted -- His face covered with the spittle of His accusers. He is now taken across the city of Jerusalem to the Praetorium of the Procurator of Judea, Pontius Pilate. Jewish leaders call the governor outside to ask a favor ([John 18:28](#)). These Jewish leaders wanted a death sentence, but Pilate made it difficult ([John 18:29-32](#)). You have to wonder with what tone

Sermon CD Requests

A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer for anyone would like to request a CD of any of the sermons. Simply put your name, the date of the sermon and service in which it was preached, and the number of copies. Many of these will become available on the webpage in the coming months, but this is a great option for now.

Prayer Requests and Notes

Please continue to remember: Al & Pat Mitchell, Doris Archer, Bethann Archer, Gay Mathis, Chris Driver, Dorothy Thornton, Reggie & Vanessa Trotter, Gross family, and Marc & Tina Shafford.

Prayer Requests: **Crystal Harvey** continues to recover from back surgery. **Charles Smith**, young friend of the Bells, is 7 years old and had to have a tumor removed from his jaw. They now found another tumor in his jaw. The **Golightly family**, friends of the Bells, lost their grandfather. Pray for the family in their loss. **Madison Bell** is having heart palpitations and had to have an EKG. They will be reading it soon. Pray for that as well. Vanessa Trotter's father is having knee surgery in February. **Annie Wright**, of the Newport News Congregation, whose cancer has returned. Please keep the **Hick's Family**, **Phillips Family** and **Jessie Taylor** all in your prayers. All are currently out sick.

Traveling: Winelands, Drivers, Hicks

Deployed: Stephen Kulick.

Additional Announcement: We are still in need of individuals to help with building cleanup.

Upcoming Events

- **February 4: Men's Breakfast** at 8am at the Hampton Golden Corral.
- **February 9: Service Night** at the building. Starting at 7pm.
- **February 25: Flyer Drop** at 9:30am.

Daily Bible Reading

Jan.29 - Exodus 29-30

Jan.30- Exodus 31-33

Jan.31- Exodus 34-35

Feb.1 - Exodus 36-38

Feb. 2- Exodus 39-40

Feb. 3- Leviticus 1-4

Feb. 4- Leviticus 4-7

Feb. 5- Leviticus 8-10

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15).