

Readings: Sunday Sermon, Dec. 1, 2019

Jesus Is Mocked

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the ^[1]Praetorium and gathered the whole *Roman* ^[m]cohort around Him. ²⁸They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a ^[a]reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰They spat on Him, and took the reed and *began* to beat Him on the head. ³¹After they had mocked Him, they took the *scarlet* robe off Him and put His *own* garments back on Him and led Him away to crucify Him.

³²As they were coming out, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon, ^[a]whom they pressed into service to bear His cross.

The Crucifixion

³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull, ³⁴they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting *it*, He was unwilling to drink.

³⁵And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting ^[s]lots. ³⁶And sitting down, they *began* to keep watch over Him there. ³⁷And above His head they put up the charge against Him ^[a]which read, "THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

³⁸At that time two robbers *were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those passing by were ^[a]hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying, "You who *are going to* destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking *Him* and saying, ⁴²"He saved others; ^[s]He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. ⁴³HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE *Him* now, IF HE ^[t]DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

⁴⁵**Now from the** ^[a]**sixth hour darkness** ^[t]**fell upon all the land until the** ^[a]**ninth hour.** ⁴⁶About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?" that is, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?" ⁴⁷And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, *began* saying, "This man is calling for

Elijah.”⁴⁸ Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink.⁴⁹ But the rest of *them* said, “^[a]Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him^[a].”⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.⁵¹ And behold, the ^[a]**veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom**; and the **earth shook and the rocks were split**.⁵² **The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the ^[aa]saints who had fallen asleep were raised**; ^[a]**and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many**.⁵⁴ Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, “**Truly this was ^[ab]the Son of God!**”

⁵⁵ Many women were there looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee while ^[ac]ministering to Him.⁵⁶ Among them was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

Jesus Is Buried

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.⁵⁸ This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given *to him*.⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.⁶¹ And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave.

⁶² Now on the next day, ^[ad]the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate,⁶³ and said, “Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I *am to* rise again.’⁶⁴ Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last deception will be worse than the first.”⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go, make it *as* secure as you know how.”⁶⁶ And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.