

Trial, flagellation and crowning

Presence of
God

Considering how God looks at me.

History
Matthew
27, 11-30

11 Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” “You have said so,” Jesus replied.

12 When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. 13 Then Pilate asked him, “Don’t you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?” 14 But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.

15 Now it was the governor’s custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. 16 At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. 17 So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” 18 For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him.

19 While Pilate was sitting on the judge’s seat, his wife sent him this message: “Don’t have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.”

20 But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

21 “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor.

“Barabbas,” they answered.

22 “What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” Pilate asked.

They all answered, “Crucify him!”

23 “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

24 When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!”

25 All the people answered, “His blood is on us and on our children!”

26 Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

27 Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. 28 They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. 30 They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. 31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.



<p>Petition</p>	<p><i>Lord, may I know you more clearly, love you more deeply and follow you more nearly in this time of agony!</i></p>	
<p>Contemplation</p>	<p>Brief review of the last Supper <i>During the last supper, Jesus is very happy because He is going to the Father and to save those He loves to the end. He is also scared, terrified, because He will be betrayed and tortured to death for us. He goes to the garden of olives to pray to the Father, to ask Him for help: "if it is possible, take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."</i></p> <p>v 11-14 Jesus remains silent and does not run away <i>When Jesus was captured, he was tried and accused of a bunch of lies ... Jesus had no sin, he was blameless!! He had always gone about doing good to everyone! Could Jesus run away? Yes, of course because; He was God, but He did not want to run away, He wanted to give his life to save us. Imagine you were wrongly accused of something ... and you were sentenced to death for that... How would you feel? What would you feel like doing? Imagine ... What did Jesus do when He was being sentenced to death?</i></p> <p>v 22-26 Jesus is flagellated <i>Pilate knew that Jesus was blameless; but he released a murderer, because if he had released Jesus, he would have got into trouble with the chief priests. Although he knew that Jesus was innocent, he didn't come to his defense; he just sentenced Him to die on the cross. Before being crucified, criminals were whipped. And so was Jesus. Imagine Jesus' body being brutally whipped.</i></p> <p>v 22-30 Jesus is given a crown of thorns <i>Soldiers mocked Jesus. How come this man (battered, betrayed, abandoned and about to die) may be a King!!! The ridiculed Him and wove a crown of thorns for this King!!! Just to make fun of Him! Jesus could run away; but He didn't want to... He wanted to remain there, despite the pain, (his entire body ached), in order to save you and me. Imagine ... How did Jesus feel? How patient He was! How much He loved us!</i></p>	<p>Jesus "freely" accepted his Passion. His love for us and his obedience to the Father were what kept Him there.</p> <p>Flagellation was the beating or whipping of the skin, most often on the back (from top to bottom); and on the front, on legs and chest, as long as life was not threatened. Jesus suffered this torture as it is evidenced in the shroud of Turin.</p> <p>The crown of thorns was not part of the traditional tortures, but the Roman soldiers had fun treating Him brutally. Behind all this is the devil, who is enraged by Jesus' determination to save us. The evil spirit cannot stand this heavy defeat.</p>
<p>Colloquy</p>	<p><i>Let's sit on the carpet, on the promised land, near Jesus, to hear him in the silence of our hearts. Close your eyes and take a deep breath... imagine that you are sitting by Jesus' side; imagine the crown of thorns... Thank Jesus for being so patient and for enduring so much suffering for us....</i></p>	