

The Passion Week

Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday

Lesson Eight

THE TRIAL BY ROME



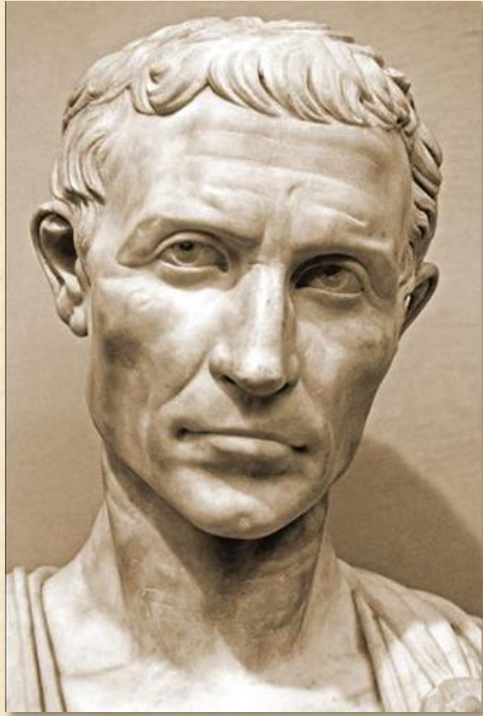
- 6pm – 9pm The Last Supper and Judas’ departure
- 9pm – 11pm Communion, Jesus washes the apostles’ feet, John 14 teachings
- 11pm – 12am The walk to the Mount of Olives, teachings from John 15 and 16
- 12am – 1am Prayers in the Garden, John 17
- 1am – 2am Betrayal by Judas and Christ’s arrest
- 2am – 4:30 am The three phases of Christ’s trial by the Jews – by Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin.



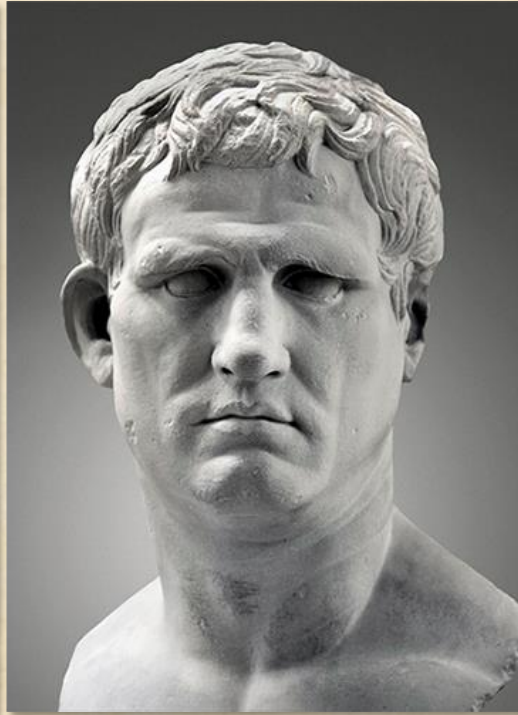
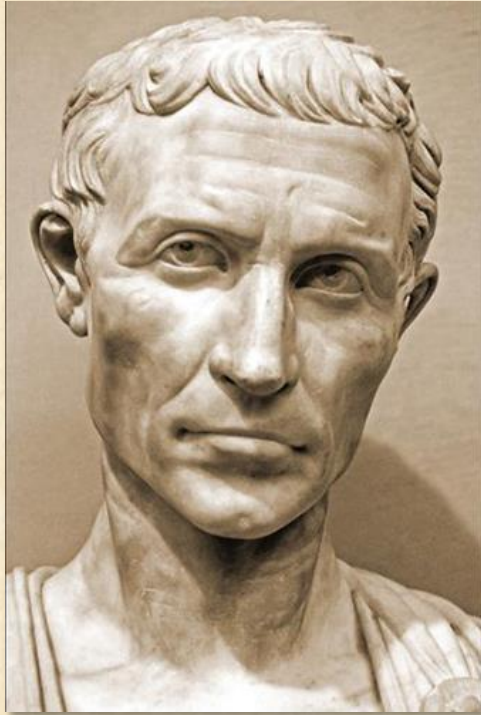
- 7pm – 9pm The Last Supper and Judas’ departure
- 9pm – 11pm Communion, Jesus washes the apostles’ feet, John 14 teachings
- 11pm – 12am The walk to the Mount of Olives, teachings from John 15 and 16
- 12am – 1am Prayers in the Garden, John 17
- 1am – 2am Betrayal by Judas and Christ’s arrest
- 2am – 4:30 am The three phases of Christ’s trial by the Jews – by Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin.
- 4:30 am – Up next was the Lord’s trial by Rome.



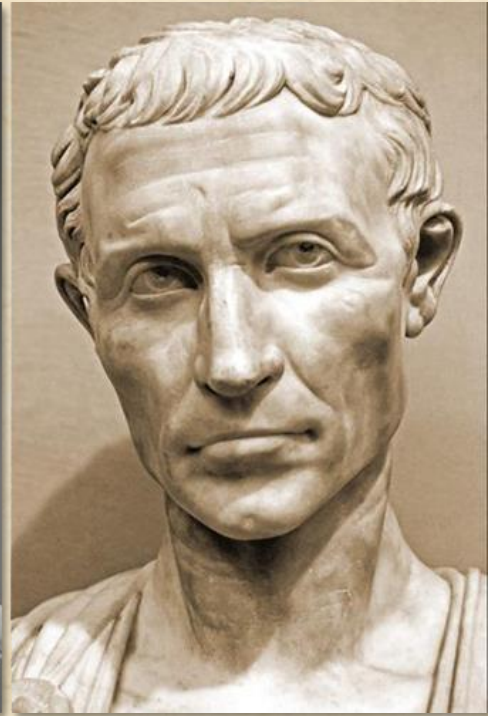
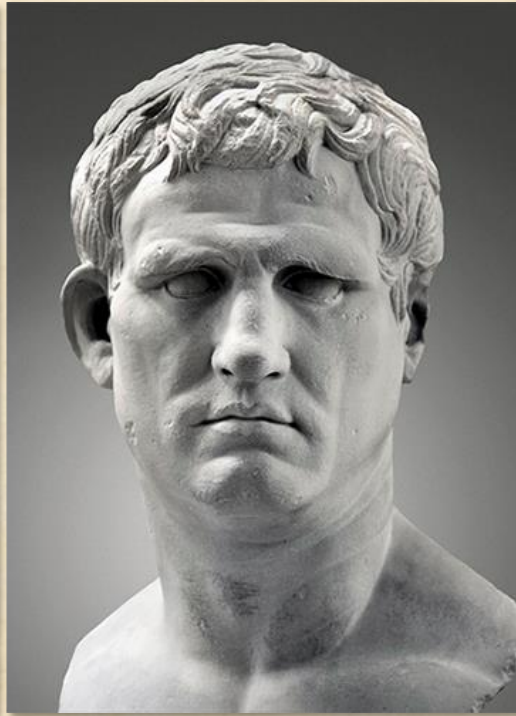
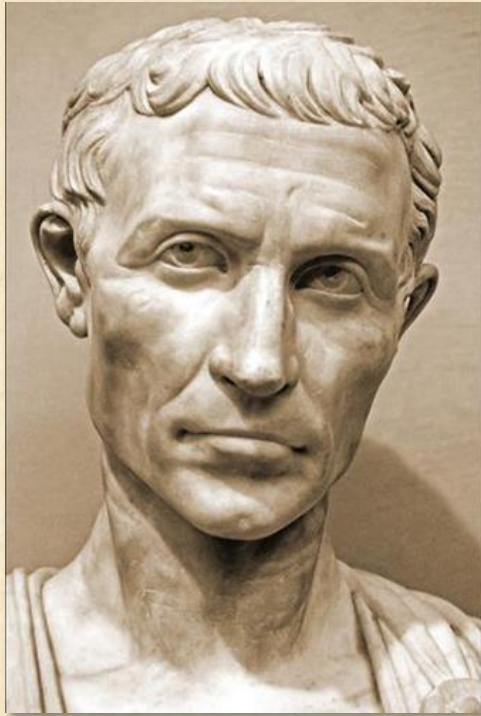
Christ's trial by the Romans was also in three parts:



Jesus was taken to Pontius Pilate,



Jesus was taken to Pontius Pilate,
who sent him to King Herod,



Jesus was taken to Pontius Pilate,
who sent him to King Herod,
who sent him back to Pilate.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

MARK

15:1

LUKE

23:1

JOHN

18:28

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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MARK

15:1

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LUKE

23:1

23:2-5

JOHN

18:28

18:29-30

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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MARK

15:1

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LUKE

23:1

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JOHN

18:28

18:29-30

18:31-32



John 18:28

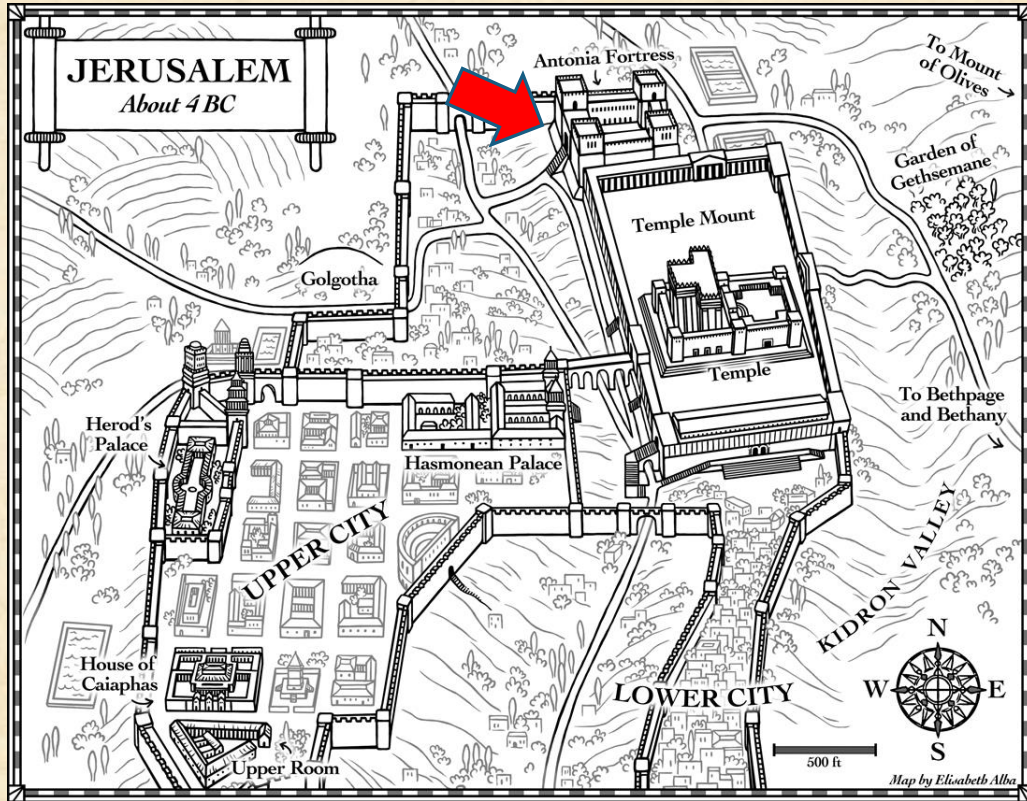
²⁸ Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover.



John 18:28

²⁸ Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover.

(The irony here is beyond measure.)



The hall of judgment was most likely in the Fortress of Antonia. This was where the governor resided.



Pilate spoke to the Jews *outside* the judgment hall. When he spoke to Jesus, he took him *inside* where he knew they would not follow.

John 18:29

²⁹ Pilate then went out unto them, and said,
What accusation bring ye against this man?



John 18:30-32

- ³⁰ They answered and said unto him,
If he were not a malefactor,
we would not have delivered him up unto thee.
- ³¹ Then said Pilate unto them,
Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.
The Jews therefore said unto him,
It is not lawful for us to put any man to death:
- ³² That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which
he spake, signifying what death he should die.



John 18:30-32

³⁰ They answered and said unto him,
If he were not a malefactor,
we would not have delivered him up unto thee.

³¹ Then said Pilate unto them,
Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.

The Jews therefore said unto him,
It is not lawful for us to put any man to death:

³² That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled,
which he spake, signifying what death he should
die.

Because Judea was under Roman authority, the Jews
needed Pilate to execute Jesus for them.



John 18:30-32

- ³⁰ They answered and said unto him,
If he were not a malefactor,
we would not have delivered him up unto thee.
- ³¹ Then said Pilate unto them,
Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.
The Jews therefore said unto him,
It is not lawful for us to put any man to death:
- ³² That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which
he spake, signifying what death he should die.

Jesus had spoken about this earlier that week:



John 12:32-33

³² And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,
will draw all men unto me.

³³ This he said,
signifying what death he should die.



John 12:32-33

- ³² And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,
will draw all men unto me.
- ³³ This he said,
signifying what death he should die.

Crucifixion was a Roman form of execution.
Jewish law put men to death by stoning.

Luke 23:2

² And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.



Luke 23:2

² And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.

To the Jews, they said Jesus planned to destroy the temple and committed blasphemy.

Now they changed their accusation from a crime against Jewish law to a crime against Rome, hoping to win Pilate's consent.



Luke 23:3-5

- 3 And Pilate asked him, saying,
Art thou the King of the Jews?
And he answered him and said,
Thou sayest it.
- 4 Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the
people, I find no fault in this man.
- 5 And they were the more fierce, saying,
He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout
all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place.



Luke 23:6-7

- 6 When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean.
- 7 And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

Herod mocks him and sends him back.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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23:8-12

JOHN

18:28

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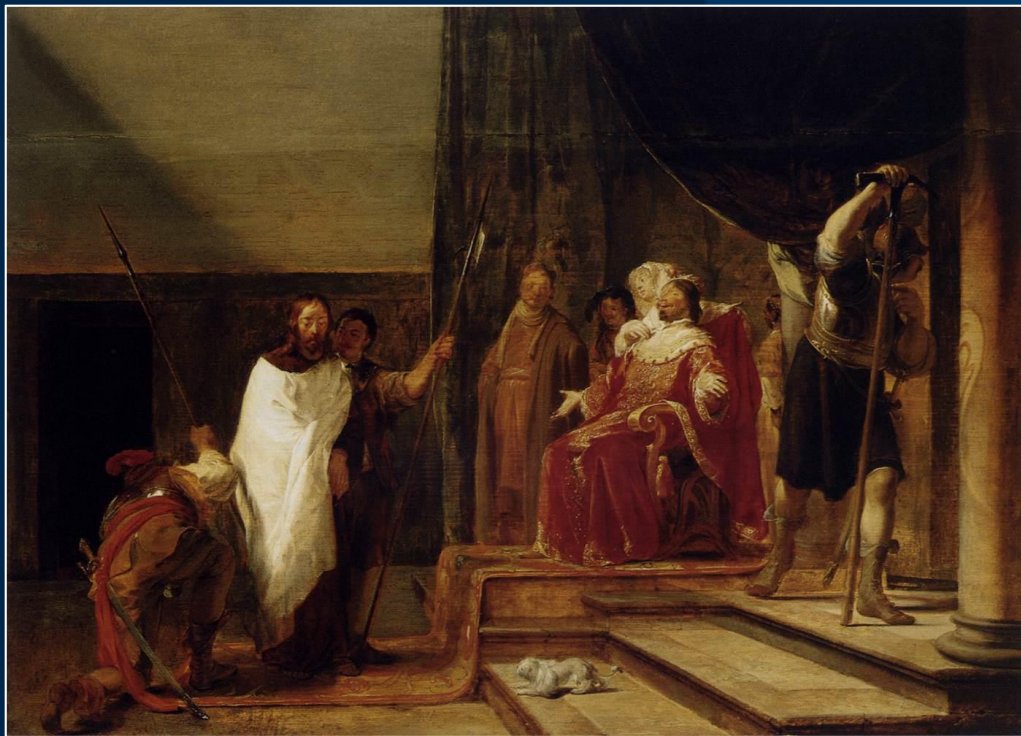


Jesus was sent to the same Herod – Herod Antipas – who had beheaded John the Baptist three years before.



Luke 23:8-10

- ⁸ And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him.
- ⁹ Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing.
- ¹⁰ And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him.



Luke 23:11-12

- ¹¹ And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked *him*, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.
- ¹² And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

Herod mocks him and sends him back.

The death of Judas.

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

27:1-2

15:1

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23:6-7

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23:8-12

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27:3-10

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From the four Gospels, only Matthew speaks of Judas's terrible end.



Matthew 27:3-5

- 3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,
- 4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.
And they said, *What is that to us? see thou to that.*
- 5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

Herod mocks him and sends him back.

The death of Judas.

Pilate questions Jesus a second time.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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27:3-10

27:11-14

MARK

15:1

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15:2-5

LUKE

23:1

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23:6-7

23:8-12

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23:13-17

JOHN

18:28

18:29-30

18:31-32

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18:33-38



Pilate took Jesus inside his judgment hall where he could question him in private.

John 18:33-36

³³ Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews?

³⁴ Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me?

³⁵ Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done?



John 18:36-37

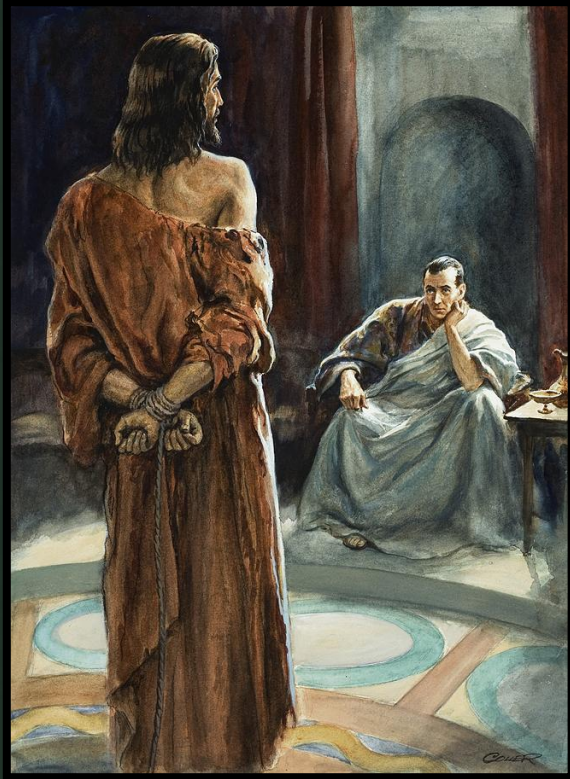
³⁶ Jesus answered,
My kingdom is not of this world:
if my kingdom were of this world,
then would my servants fight,
that I should not be delivered to the Jews:
but now is my kingdom not from hence.

³⁷ Pilate therefore said unto him,
Art thou a king then?

Jesus answered,
Thou sayest that I am a king.

To this end was I born,
and for this cause came I into the world,
that I should bear witness unto the truth.

Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.



John 18:38

³⁸ Pilate saith unto him,
What is truth?

And when he had said this, he went out
again unto the Jews, and saith unto them,
I find in him no fault *at all*.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

Herod mocks him and sends him back.

The death of Judas.

Pilate questions Jesus a second time.

Pilate's wife gives him a warning.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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27:3-10

27:11-14

27:15-19

MARK

15:1

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15:2-5

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LUKE

23:1

23:2-5

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23:6-7

23:8-12

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23:13-17

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JOHN

18:28

18:29-30

18:31-32

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18:33-38

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Matthew 27:19

¹⁹ When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying,

Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.



NISAN 14

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The death of Judas.

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Pilate's wife gives him a warning.

The people choose Barabbas over Christ.

MATTHEW

27:1-2

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27:3-10

27:11-14

27:15-19

27:20-25

MARK

15:1

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15:2-5

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15:6-14

LUKE

23:1

23:2-5

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23:6-7

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23:18-25

JOHN

18:28

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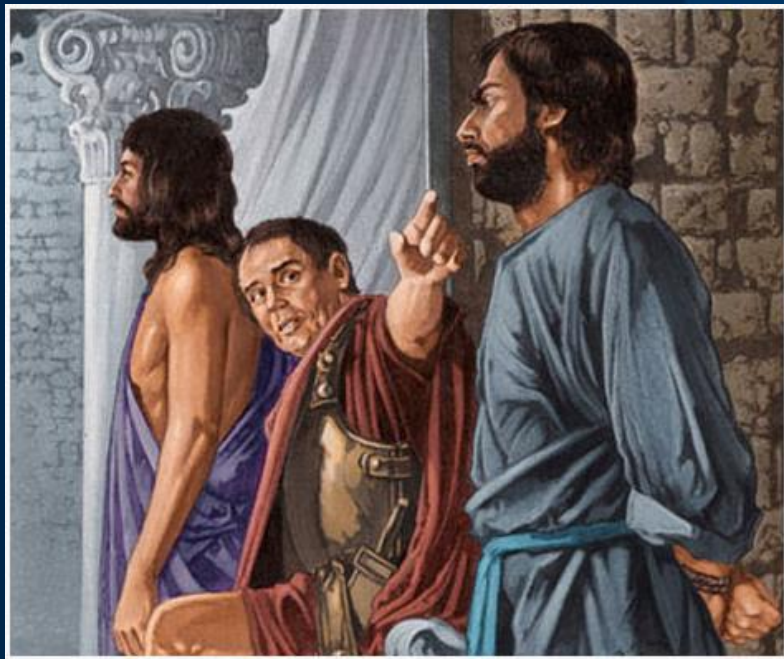
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18:33-38

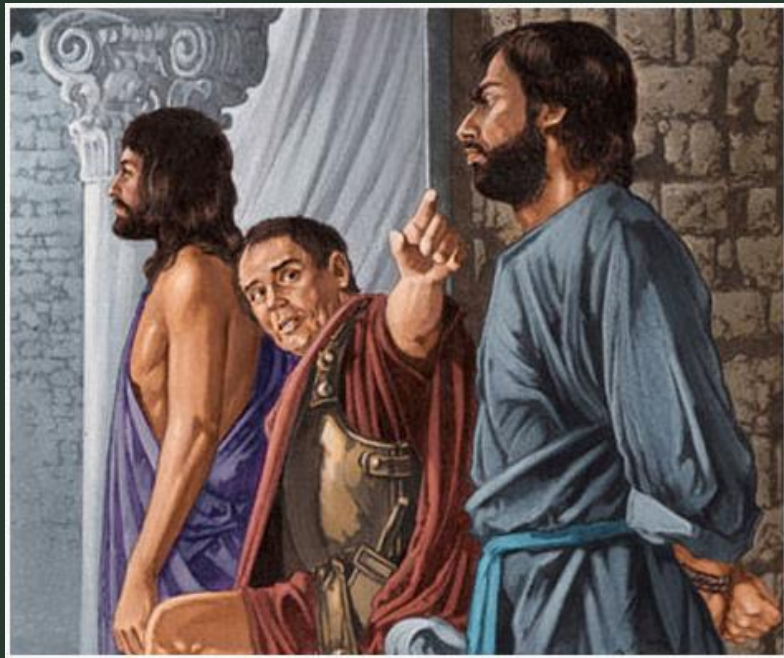
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18:39-40

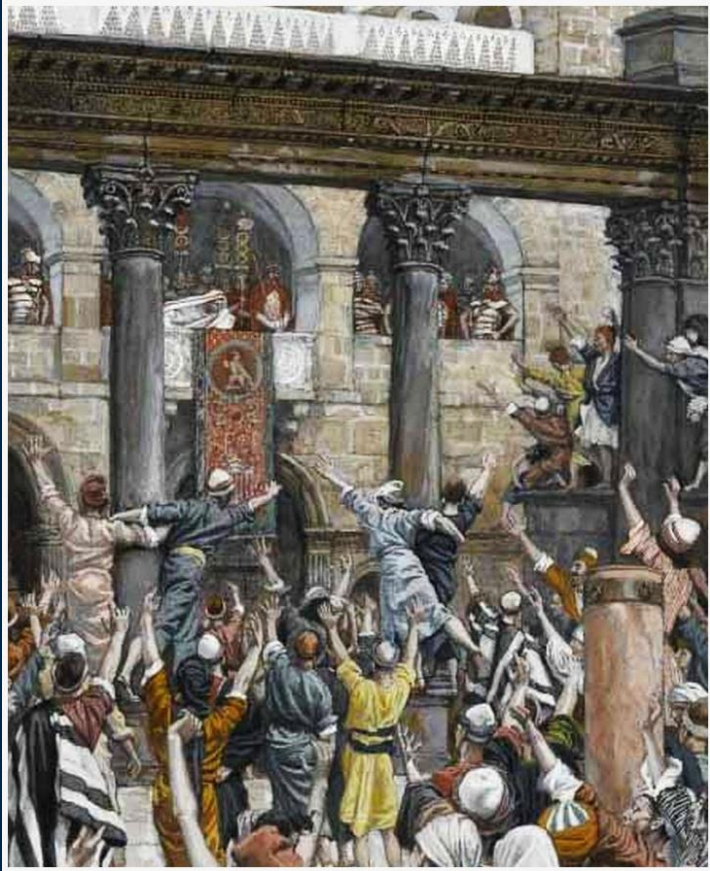


Matthew 27:15-18

- ¹⁵ Now at *that* feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would.
- ¹⁶ And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas.
- ¹⁷ Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?
- ¹⁸ For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.



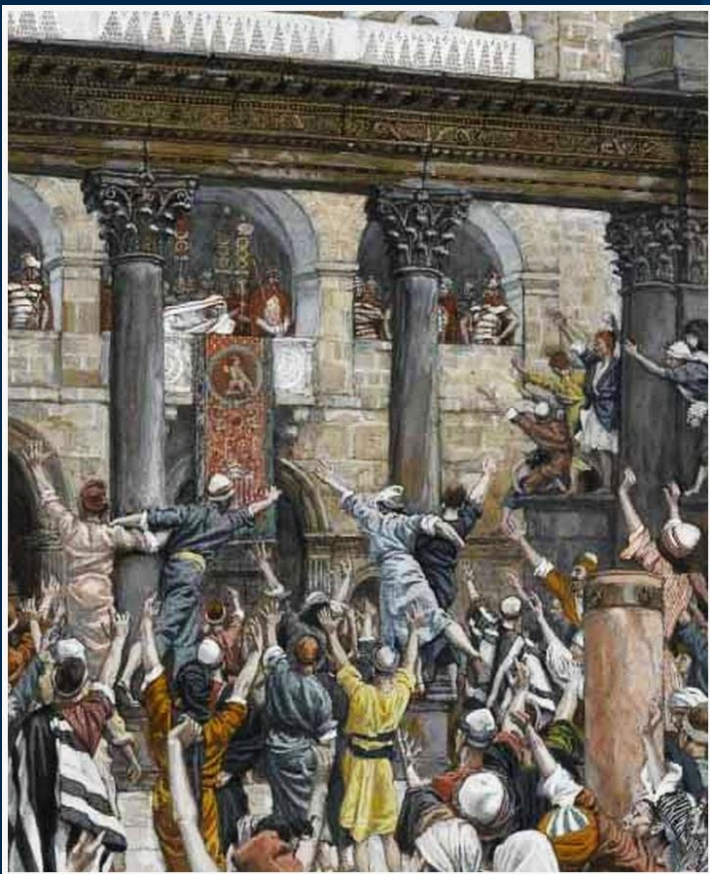
Barabbas or “Bar-abba” means *son of the father*, adding another layer of irony to the people’s choice.



Pilate knew Jesus had been popular with the people and expected them to choose him.

Matthew 27:20-21

- ²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.
- ²¹ The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you?
They said, Barabbas.

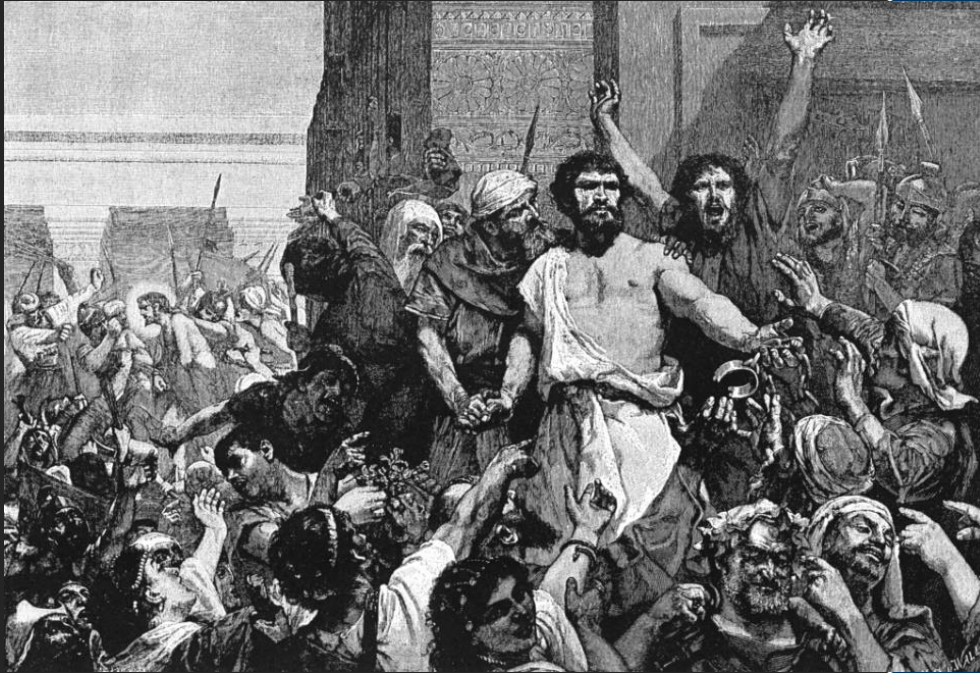


Matthew 27:22-23

²² Pilate saith unto them,
What shall I do then with Jesus which is
called Christ?

*They all say unto him,
Let him be crucified.*

²³ And the governor said,
Why, what evil hath he done?
But they cried out the more, saying,
Let him be crucified.



Luke 23:25

And he released unto them him
that for sedition and murder was
cast into prison,
whom they had desired;
but he delivered Jesus to their will.

NISAN 14

Thursday morning

THE TRIAL BY ROME

The high council takes Jesus to Pilate.

They accuse him of making himself a king.

They want him put to death.

Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.

Herod mocks him and sends him back.

The death of Judas.

Pilate questions Jesus a second time.

Pilate's wife gives him a warning.

The people choose Barabbas over Christ.

Pilate has Jesus scourged.

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

27:1-2

15:1

23:1

18:28

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23:2-5

18:29-30

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18:31-32

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27:11-14

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27:20-25

15:6-14

23:18-25

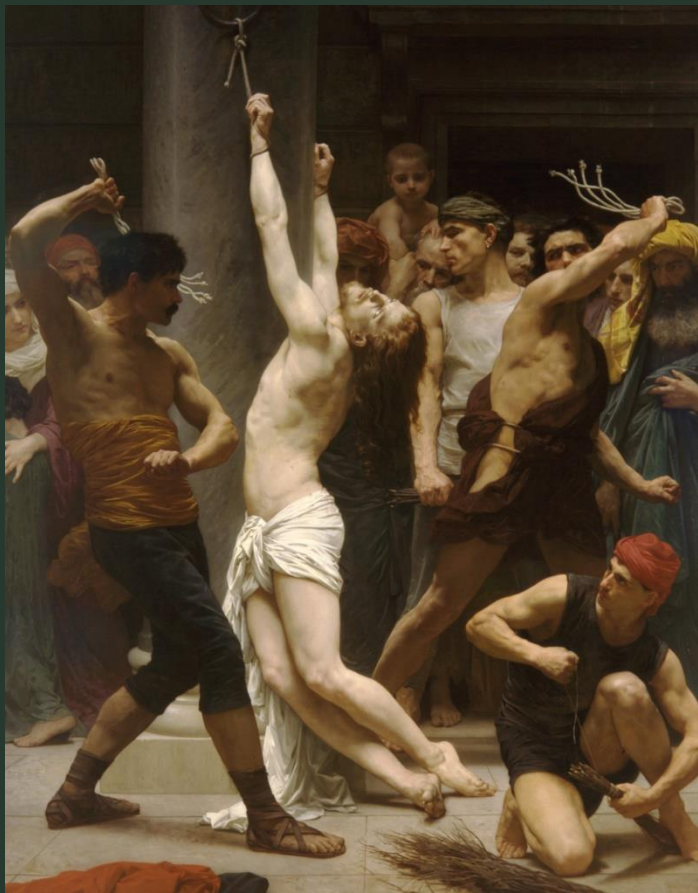
18:39-40

27:26

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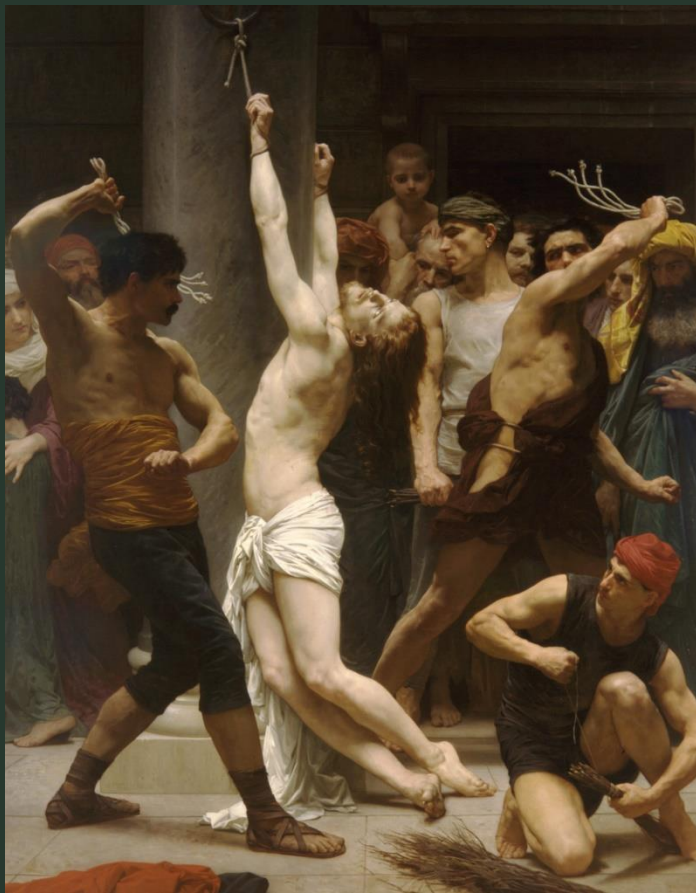
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19:1a



John 19:1

Then Pilate therefore took Jesus,
and scourged *him*.



John 19:1

Then Pilate therefore took Jesus,
and scourged *him*.

Flogging with a scourge preceded every Roman crucifixion. It was designed to torture and degrade the prisoner, and because of the great loss of blood, speed along his death.



Matthew 27:27-30

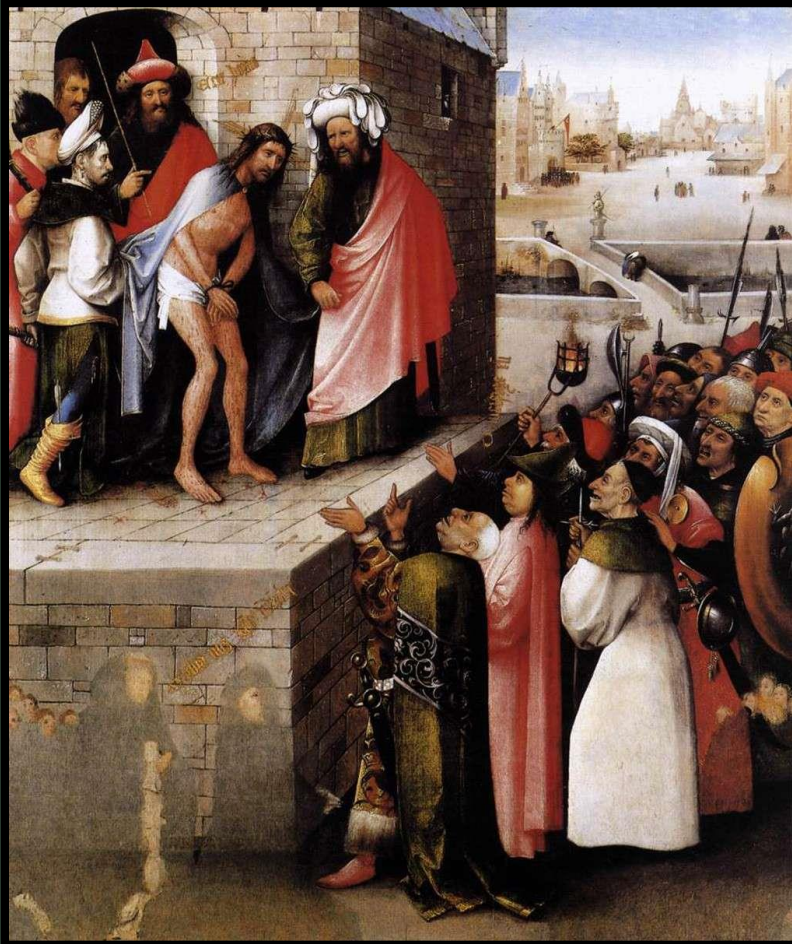
- ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers.
- ²⁸ And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.
- ²⁹ And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put *it* upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!
- ³⁰ And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.



John 19:4-5

- 4 Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.
- 5 Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe.

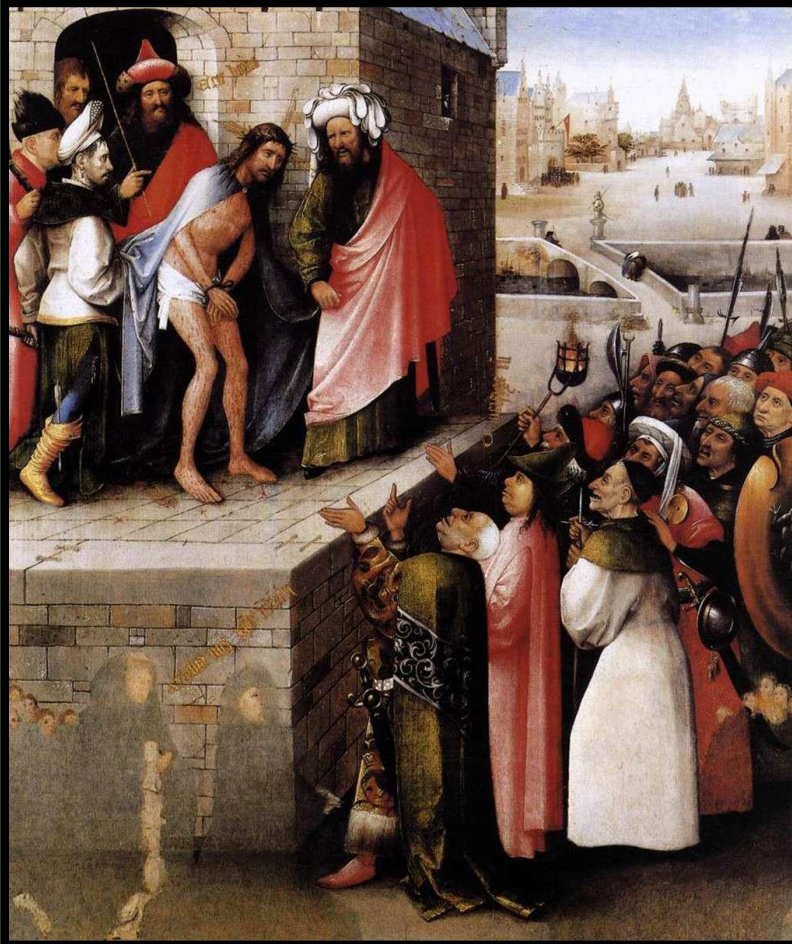
And *Pilate* saith unto them, Behold the man!



John 19:6

⁶ When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, *Crucify him, crucify him.*

Pilate saith unto them,
Take ye him, and *crucify him:*
for I find no fault in him.

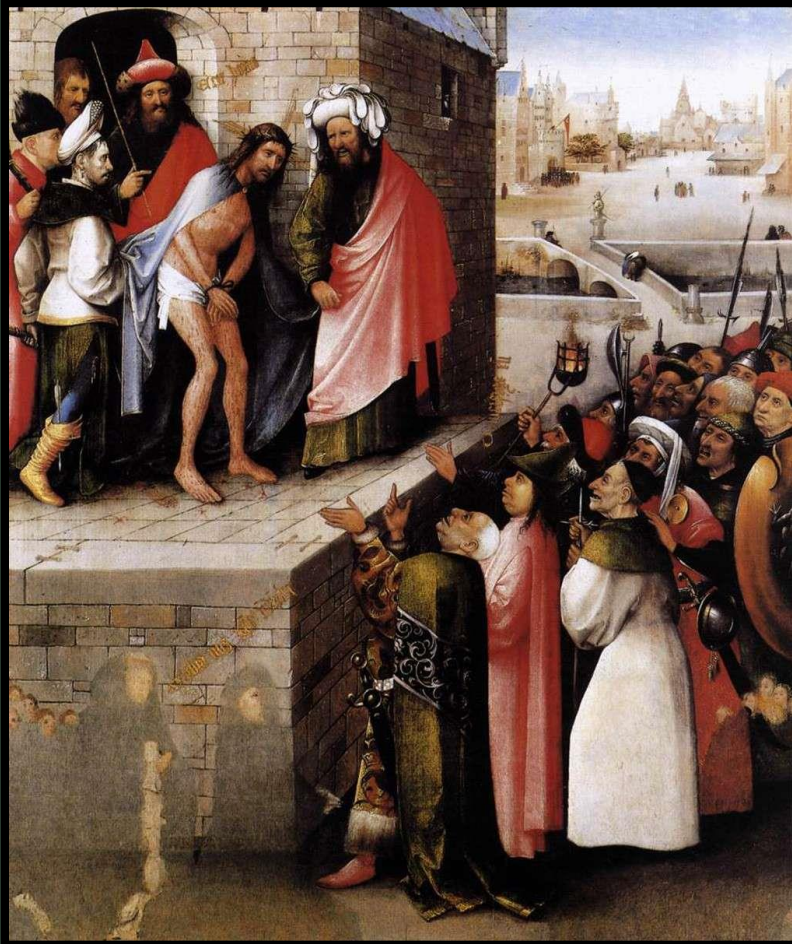


John 19:6

⁶ When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, *Crucify him, crucify him.*

Pilate saith unto them,
Take ye him, and crucify *him*:
for I find no fault in him.

Three times Pilate told the Jews, “I find no fault in him” (John 18:38, 19:4, 19:6).



John 19:7-9

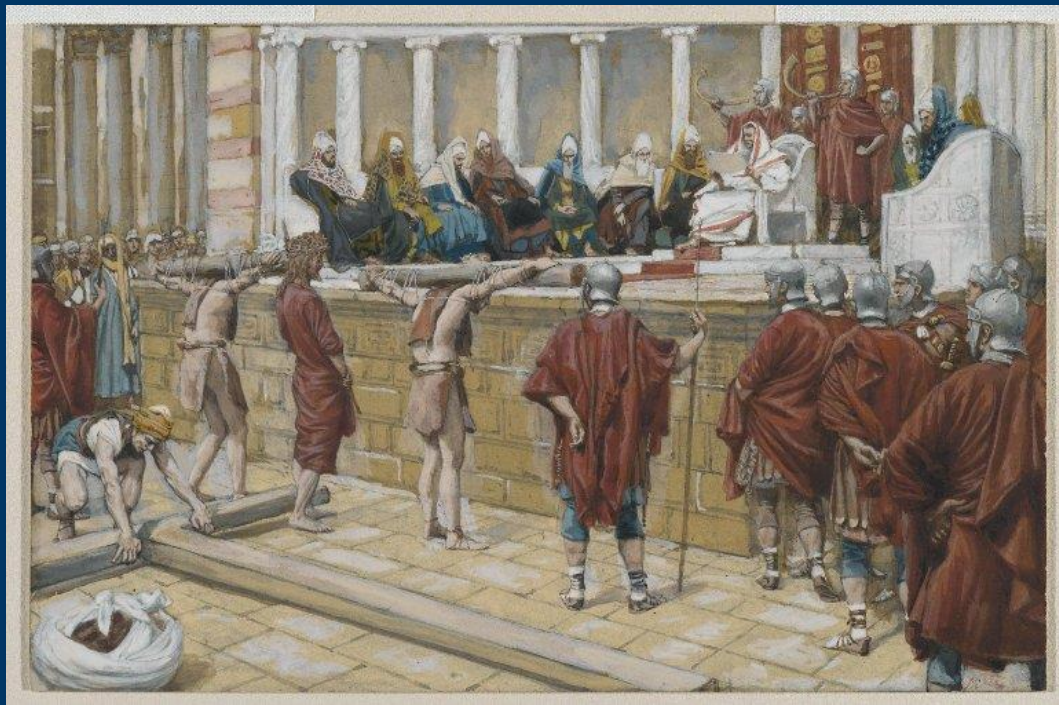
- 7 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.
- 8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;
- 9 And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou?

But Jesus gave him no answer.



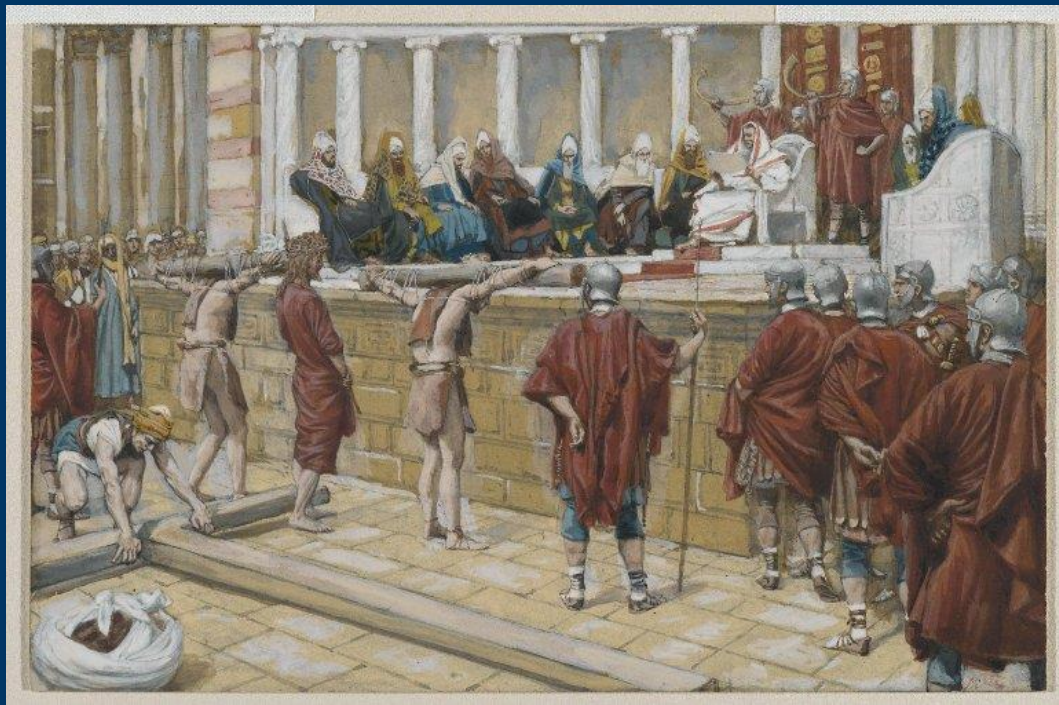
John 19:10-12

- ¹⁰ Then saith Pilate unto him,
Speakest thou not unto me?
knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?
- ¹¹ Jesus answered,
Thou couldest have no power *at all* against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.
- ¹² And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying,
If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.



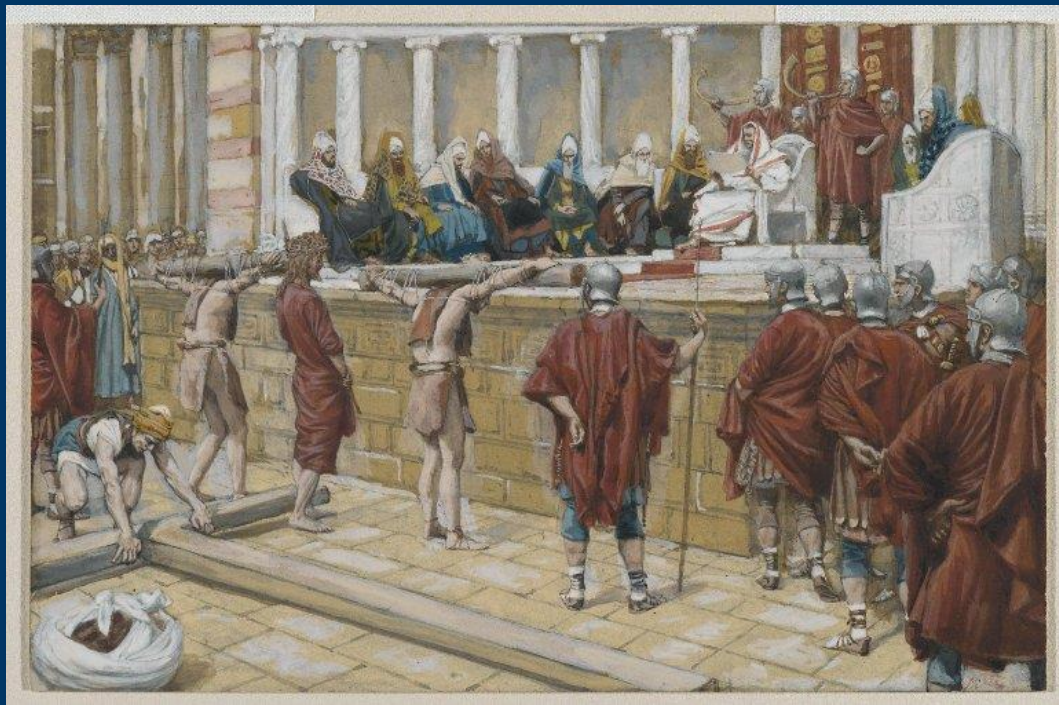
John 19:13

¹³ When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha.



John 19:14

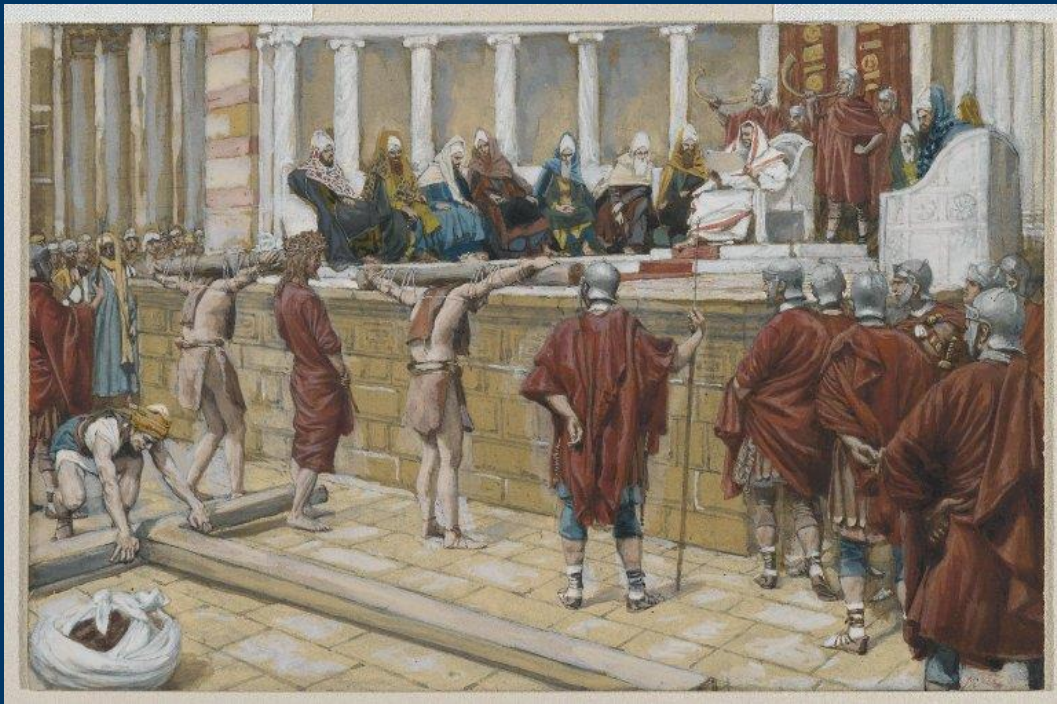
¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:



John 19:14

¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:

But Mark 15:25 says Jesus was crucified in the *third* hour!



John 19:14

¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:

But Mark 15:25 says Jesus was crucified in the *third* hour!

Unlike the other gospel writers, John used ROMAN time.



Just like the Jews, the Romans also divided a day into 12 daylight hours and 12 nighttime hours.

They kept time using a sundial. The chief point of reference was the midday sun when it was highest in the sky.

Midnight was designated by counting *backwards* 12 hours. That is how midnight came to mark the start of a new day.

Why would John use Roman time?

The Gospel of John shows Jesus as the Savior of all mankind, Jews and Gentiles alike.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



John wrote to an audience unfamiliar with Jewish traditions. This explains the wording of passages like John 6:4: “And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.”

All the time references in John use the Roman method of designating time:



John 1:35-39

- 35 Again the next day after John stood,
and two of his disciples;
- 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked,
he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!
- 37 And the two disciples heard him speak,
and they followed Jesus.
- 38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following,
and saith unto them, What seek ye?
They said unto him, Rabbi,
(which is to say, being interpreted, Master,)
where dwellest thou?
- 39 He saith unto them, Come and see.
They came and saw where he dwelt,
and abode with him that day:
for it was about the tenth hour.



John 1:35-39

- 35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;
- 36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!
- 37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.
- 38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?
- 39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.



This must be 10 AM or else they would abide with him that *night*.



John 1:35-39

- ³⁵ Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;
- ³⁶ And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!
- ³⁷ And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.
- ³⁸ Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye?

They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?

- ³⁹ He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.



See how John explains Jewish words to a Gentile audience.



John 4:5-7a

- ⁵ Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
- ⁶ Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well: *and it was about the sixth hour.*
- ⁷ There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water ...



John 4:5-7a

- 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
- 6 Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well: *and it was about the sixth hour.*
- 7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water ...



This must be 6 AM – Jesus would travel in the cool of the day, and water is usually collected in the morning.



Back to the Lord's trial by Rome:

John 19:14

¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:



Back to the Lord's trial by Rome:

John 19:14

¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:

The Lord's appearance before Pilate took place in the early morning hours.



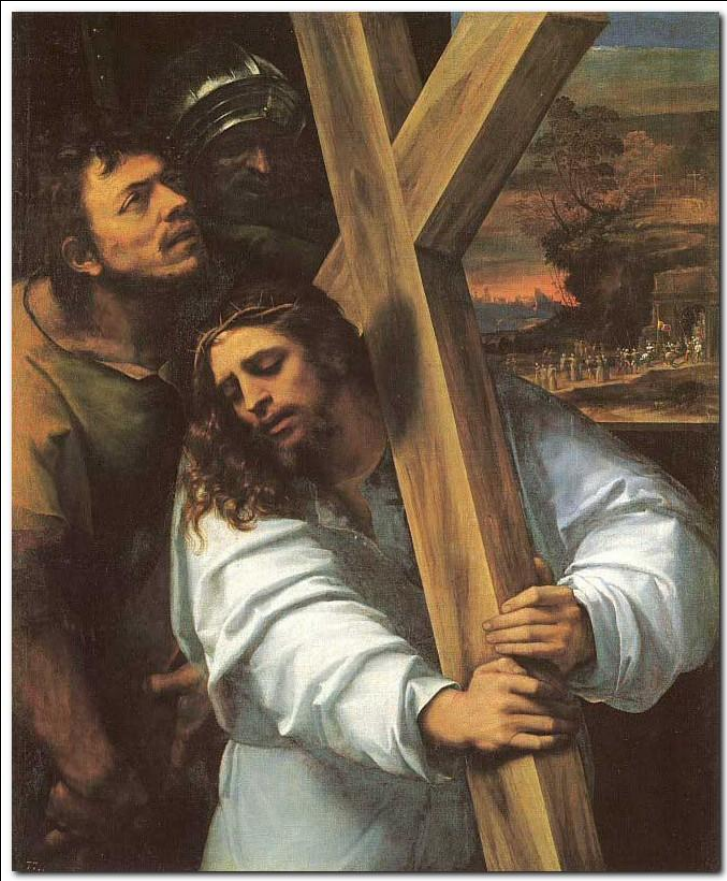
John 19:14-15

- ¹⁴ And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour:
and he saith unto the Jews,
Behold your King!
- ¹⁵ But they cried out,
Away with *him*,
away with *him*, crucify him.
Pilate saith unto them,
Shall I crucify your King?
The chief priests answered,
We have no king but Caesar.



Matthew 27:24-25

- ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but *that* rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye *to it*.
- ²⁵ Then answered all the people, and said, His blood *be* on us, and on our children.



Matthew 27:31

And after that they [the soldiers] had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify *him*.



- 7pm – 9pm The Last Supper and Judas’ departure
- 9pm – 11pm Communion, Jesus washes the apostles’ feet, John 14 teachings
- 11pm – 12am The walk to the Mount of Olives, teachings from John 15 and 16
- 12am – 1am Prayers in the Garden, John 17
- 1am – 2am Betrayal by Judas and Christ’s arrest
- 2am – 4:30 am The three phases of Christ’s trial by the Jews – by Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin.
- 4:30 am – 6am Jesus was sent to Pilate, then to Herod, then back to Pilate.



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- 4:30 am – 6am Jesus was sent to Pilate, then to Herod, then back to Pilate.
- 6am “About the sixth hour,” Pilate’s hearing ended.
Jesus is put in his own clothes and taken away to be crucified.



This timetable seems impossibly cramped, so it is important to realize that the Jews had no interest in giving Jesus a fair trial. They wanted to get this dirty business over and done with as quickly as possible – before Passover, and before the people changed their minds. They went through all the necessary steps with the same cold-hearted manner they kept the law – so no one could charge them with wrongdoing.



UP NEXT:
Golgotha

What did you learn?

1. What are the three parts of Christ's trial by the Romans?

He was sent to Pilate, to King Herod, and back to Pilate.

What did you learn?

2. According to John 18:28, why wouldn't the Jews enter Pilate's judgment hall?

They would be “defiled” and unfit to eat the passover.

“Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover.”

What did you learn?

3. According to John 18:31, why did the Jews need Pilate's approval to put Jesus to death?

Being under Roman rule, they did not have the authority to put a man to death.

“Then said Pilate unto them, Take ye him, and judge him according to your law. The Jews therefore said unto him, It is not lawful for us to put any man to death.”

What did you learn?

4. In Luke 23:2, what accusations against Jesus did they make to Pilate?

“We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.”

What did you learn?

5. According to Luke 23:8, why was Herod glad to see Jesus?

“And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him.”

What did you learn?

6. In John 18:37, why did Jesus say he had come into the world?

“To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.”

What did you learn?

7. What does the name Barabbas mean?

“son of the father”

What did you learn?

8. According to Matthew 27:27-79, who put the crown of thorns on Jesus's head?

“The soldiers of the governor”

What did you learn?

9. In the Gospel of John, how many times did Pilate say, "I find no fault in him?"

Three times
(Jn 18:38, 19:4, 19:6)

What did you learn?

10. According to Matthew 27:24, what did Pilate tell the Jews as he washed his hands?

“I am innocent of the blood of this just person.”



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