



---

The PASSION HISTORY of  
*Jesus Christ*

### *The Plot to Kill Jesus*

(Matthew 26:1-5; Mark 14:1-2; John 11:45-57)

<sup>1</sup> The Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. <sup>2</sup> The chief priests and the experts in the law were trying to find some way to put Jesus to death, because they were afraid of the people. <sup>3</sup> Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve. <sup>4</sup> He went away and spoke with the chief priests and officers of the temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. <sup>5</sup> They were glad and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup> He promised to do it and was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them away from the crowd.

### *Jesus Celebrates the Passover*

(Matthew 26:17-20; Mark 14:12-17)

<sup>7</sup> The day of Unleavened Bread arrived, when it was necessary to sacrifice the Passover lamb. <sup>8</sup> Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat it."

<sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where do you want us to prepare it?"

<sup>10</sup> He told them, "Just as you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters.

<sup>11</sup> Tell the owner of the house, "The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"

<sup>12</sup> He will show you a large, furnished upper room. Make preparations there." <sup>13</sup> They went and found things just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup> When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with the twelve apostles. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, <sup>16</sup> for I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

<sup>17</sup> He took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves, <sup>18</sup> for I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

## *The Lord's Supper*

(Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; 1  
Corinthians 11:23-25)

<sup>19</sup> He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup> In the same way, he took the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament<sup>i</sup> in my blood, which is being poured out for you.



## *One Will Betray Jesus*

(Matthew 26:21-25; Mark 14:18-21; John 13:21-30)

<sup>21</sup> "But look, the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. <sup>22</sup> The Son of Man is going to go as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

<sup>23</sup> They began to discuss with one another which of them it was who was going to do this.

## *Who Is Greatest?*

<sup>24</sup> A dispute arose among the disciples about which of them was considered to be greatest. <sup>25</sup> But he told them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who have authority over them are called Benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But it is not to be that way with you. Instead, let the greatest among you become like the youngest, and the one who leads like the one who serves. <sup>27</sup> For who is greater, one who reclines at the table or one who serves? Isn't it the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. <sup>28</sup> You are those who have remained with me in my trials. <sup>29</sup> I am going to grant a kingdom to you, just as my Father granted to me, <sup>30</sup> so that you may eat and drink at my table in my

---

<sup>i</sup> v. 20 — As in *last will and testament*. See Galatians 3:15.

kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

### *Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial*

*(Matthew 26:31-35; Mark 14:27-31; John 13:36-38)*

<sup>31</sup> The Lord said, “Simon, Simon, pay attention: Satan has asked to have you all, so that he may sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have returned to me, strengthen your brothers.”

<sup>33</sup> He said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death!”

<sup>34</sup> But Jesus replied, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you deny three times that you know me.”

<sup>35</sup> He said to them, “When I sent you out without money bag, traveler’s bag, and sandals, did you lack anything?”

“Nothing,” they said.

<sup>36</sup> Then he told them, “But now, let the one who has a money bag take it, and likewise a traveler’s bag. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. <sup>37</sup> For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘He was counted with transgressors.’<sup>ii</sup> Indeed, what is written about me is going to have its fulfillment.”

<sup>38</sup> They said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.”

He said to them, “That is enough.”

---

<sup>ii</sup> v. 37 — Isaiah 53:12

### Gethsemane

(Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42)

<sup>39</sup> Jesus left and went out to the Mount of Olives, as was his custom. His disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When he reached the place, he told them, “Keep praying that you may not enter into temptation.”

<sup>41</sup> He withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, <sup>42</sup> “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done.”

<sup>43</sup> An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. <sup>44</sup> As he was in agony, he prayed more fervently. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.<sup>iii</sup>

<sup>45</sup> When he rose from prayer, he went to the disciples and found them sleeping as a result of sorrow. <sup>46</sup> He said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and keep praying so that you may not enter into temptation.”



### Jesus' Arrest

(Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-52; John 18:1-14)

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd appeared, and the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He came near to Jesus to kiss him. <sup>48</sup> But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”



<sup>iii</sup> v. 44 — A few witnesses to the text omit verses 43-44.

<sup>49</sup> When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, "Lord, should we strike with a sword?"  
<sup>50</sup> Then one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

<sup>51</sup> But Jesus responded, "Stop! No more of this!" Then he touched the servant's ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come out against him, "Have you come out as you would against a robber, with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup> Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour—when darkness rules."

<sup>54</sup> Then they seized him, led him away, and brought him into the high priest's house.

---

### **PASSION HISTORY READING: PART 3**

*Luke 22:54-71*

#### ***Peter Denies Jesus***

*(Matthew 26:69-75; Mark 14:66-72; John 18:15-18,25-27)*

<sup>54</sup> Peter followed at a distance. <sup>55</sup> When they had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup> A servant girl saw him sitting near the light. She looked closely at him and said, "This man also was with him."

<sup>57</sup> But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

<sup>58</sup> After a little while someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them!"

But Peter answered, "Man, I am not!"

<sup>59</sup> After about one hour had passed, someone else was firmly insisting, "Truly this man was with him too, because he is a Galilean!"

<sup>60</sup> But Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about!" At that very moment, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup> The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the Lord's word, how he had said to him, "Before the

rooster crows today you will deny me three times.”<sup>62</sup> He went outside and wept bitterly.



### *The Guards Mock Jesus*

<sup>63</sup> The men who were holding Jesus in custody mocked him while they were beating him. <sup>64</sup> They blindfolded him and kept asking him, “Prophesy! Who hit you?” <sup>65</sup> And they went on saying many other blasphemous things against him.

### *Jewish Court*

<sup>66</sup> As soon as it was day, the council of the elders of the people met together, both the chief priests and experts in the law. They brought him into their Sanhedrin and 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 me or release me.<sup>iv</sup> <sup>69</sup> But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”<sup>v</sup>

<sup>70</sup> They all said, “Are you then the Son of God?”

He said to them, “I am what you are saying.”

<sup>71</sup> Then they said, “Why do we need any more testimony? For we ourselves have heard it from his own mouth!”

---

<sup>iv</sup> v. 68 — A few witnesses to the text omit *or release me*.

<sup>v</sup> v. 69 — Psalm 110:1

### *Jesus' Trial in Pilate's Court*

(Matthew 27:11-14; Mark 15:1-5; John 18:28-38)



<sup>1</sup> The whole group of them got up and brought him before Pilate. <sup>2</sup> They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this fellow misleading our nation, forbidding the payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."

<sup>3</sup> Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

"It is as you say," Jesus replied.

<sup>4</sup> Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

<sup>5</sup> But they kept insisting, "He stirs up the people, teaching all through Judea, beginning from Galilee all the way here."

### *Pilate Sends Jesus to Herod*

<sup>6</sup> When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. <sup>7</sup> When he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

<sup>8</sup> When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad. For a long time, he had wanted to see him, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle performed by him. <sup>9</sup> He questioned him with many words, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> The chief priests and the experts in the law stood there, vehemently accusing him. <sup>11</sup> Herod, along with his soldiers, treated him with contempt and ridiculed him. Dressing him in bright clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. <sup>12</sup> Herod and Pilate became friends with each other on that day. Before this they had been enemies of each other.

<sup>13</sup> Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, <sup>14</sup> and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who is



misleading the people. Look, I have examined him in your presence. I have found in this man no basis for the charges you are bringing against him. <sup>15</sup> Herod did not either, for he sent him back to us.<sup>vi</sup> See, he has done nothing worthy of death. <sup>16</sup> So I will have him flogged and release him.”

### *Barabbas or Jesus?*

(Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:6-15; John 18:39-40)

<sup>17</sup> Pilate needed to release one prisoner to them at the Festival.<sup>vii</sup>

<sup>18</sup> But they all shouted together with one voice: “Take him away! Release Barabbas to us!”

<sup>19</sup> Barabbas had been thrown in prison for a rebellion in the city and for murder.

<sup>20</sup> Pilate addressed them again, because he wanted to release Jesus.

<sup>21</sup> But they kept shouting, “Crucify! Crucify him!”

<sup>22</sup> He said to them the third time, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found no grounds for sentencing him to death. So I will whip him and release him.” <sup>23</sup> But they kept pressuring him with loud voices, demanding that he be crucified. And their voices<sup>viii</sup> were overwhelming. <sup>24</sup> So Pilate decided that what they demanded would be done. <sup>25</sup> He released the one they had asked for, who had been thrown in prison for rebellion and murder, but he handed Jesus over to their will.



---

<sup>vi</sup> v. 15 — Some witnesses to the text read *for I sent you to him*.

<sup>vii</sup> v. 17 — A few witnesses to the text omit verse 17. See Matthew 27:15 and Mark 15:6.

<sup>viii</sup> v. 23 — Some witnesses to the text add *and the voices of the high priests*

### The Crucifixion

(Matthew 27:31-44; Mark 15:20-32; John 19:16-27)

26 As they led him away, they seized Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country. They placed the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A large crowd of people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him. 28 Jesus turned to them and said,



“Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 Be sure of this: The days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never gave birth, and the breasts that never nursed.’ 30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ ix<sup>31</sup> For if they do these things to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?”

32 Two other men, who were criminals, were led away with Jesus to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified him there with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

They cast lots to divide his garments among them. 35 The people stood watching. The rulers were ridiculing him, saying, “He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, the Chosen One!”

36 The soldiers also made fun of him. Coming up to him, they offered him sour wine, 37 saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

38 They crucified him between two criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 39 Above his head they placed a sign that read, “THE KING OF THE JEWS.” 40 Some of the Jews there read the sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. But some of them did not understand Hebrew, so they translated it into Aramaic. 41 Some of the Arabs there read the sign, for they understood Aramaic. 42 They said to one another, “He said nothing, but we hear him blaspheme the King of the Jews.” 43 One of the criminals there reviled him and said, “I don’t see any fault in you. But what have you done?” 44 He said, “I was afraid of the king, so I gave him money. Now I am here with you, because I did nothing wrong. And he said, ‘I don’t see any fault in you, but you are crucified here with criminals who have done many bad things.’” 45 He said to the other criminal, “Don’t you fear God, who is the Lord of all? He has ordered us to pay tribute to the king, and we have paid. But you have refused to pay. So now you and I are here, and this man has done nothing wrong. He is being crucified here with us because he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” 46 He said to Jesus, “Remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus said to him, “I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

47 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three. At three, Jesus said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit,” and he breathed his last. 48 The soldiers came and broke his legs to make sure he was dead. But when they came to Jesus, they found he was already dead, so they did not break his legs. 49 One soldier thrust his spear into his side, and out came blood and water. 50 The man who saw this has written it down so that you may believe that Jesus really died. These things happened so that you would not say, “The soldiers did not break his legs, but he died because he was already dead.”

51 The soldiers did not know what to do with the bodies, because it was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was about to begin. So they took the bodies and put them in one tomb that had been cut into the rock. It was the tomb of a man who had died. 52 This happened so that you would not say, “The soldiers did not break his legs, but he died because he was already dead.”

ix v. 30 — Hosea 10:8

38 There was also an inscription written above him: "This is the King of the Jews."

39 One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? 41 We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me<sup>x</sup> when you come in<sup>xi</sup> your kingdom."

43 Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise."

### *Jesus' Death*

*(Matthew 27:45-56; Mark 15:33-41; John 19:28-37)*

44 It was now about the sixth hour,<sup>xii</sup> and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour,<sup>xiii</sup> 45 while the sun was darkened. Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"<sup>xiv</sup> When he had said this, he breathed his last.

47 When the centurion saw what had happened, he began to glorify God, saying, "This man really was righteous." 48 When all the groups of people who had gathered to see this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their chests. 49 All those who knew Jesus, and the women who followed with him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

---

x v. 42 — Some witnesses to the text read *Then he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Lord..."*

xi v. 42 — A few witnesses to the text read *into*.

xii v. 44 — Jewish time began with sunrise, so the sixth hour was about noon.

xiii v. 44 — 3 PM

xiv v. 46 — Psalm 31:5

## *Jesus' Burial*

*(Matthew 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; John 19:38-42)*

<sup>50</sup> Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea, who was a member of the Council, a good and righteous man. <sup>51</sup> He had not agreed with their plan and action. He was looking forward to the kingdom of God. <sup>52</sup> This man went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. <sup>53</sup> He took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and placed it in a tomb that was cut out of rock, where no one had yet been laid. <sup>54</sup> It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was beginning.

<sup>55</sup> The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed after Joseph, and they observed the tomb and how his body was laid there. <sup>56</sup> Then they returned and prepared spices and perfumes. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

