

The Trials and Crucifixion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Dead Man Walking:

Elmo Patrick Sonnier, (executed April 5th, 1984.)

Last Statement to one of the victim's father:

“ I can understand the way you feel. I have no hatred in my heart, as I leave this world, I ask God to forgive what...I have done”

12:07 A.M Four alternating currents of 2,000 volts administered for 20 seconds followed by 500 volts for 10 seconds.

Pronounced dead at 12:15 A.M approx. 8 minutes after execution began.

Submitted for thought:

Those not accepting the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ are as a Dead Man walking. (man = mankind). For lost people, dead in their sins the world is but a holding cell while they await judgment and sentencing to eternal death. However there is clemency/forgiveness for those that accept Jesus as Lord and Savior.

The Arrest

Soon after midnight Jesus was arrested at Gethsemane.

Mark: 14: 44-46, 53

44-And he that betrayed Him had given them a token (sign) saying “whomsoever I shall kiss that same is He; take Him, and lead Him away safely.

Safely = secured assuredly.

45-And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to Him and saith , “Master, Master;” and kissed Him.

Note: Judas never spoke of or to Jesus as Lord.

46-And they laid their hands on Him and took Him.

53-And they led Jesus away to the high priest: and with him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and scribes.

The Jewish Trial: Part I

Between 1:00 A.M and daybreak Jesus taken before Annas (former high priest). Taken to Annas first because his experience in law would better enable him to formulate a charge against him.

John 18: 13

13-And led him away to Annas first for he was the father in law to Caiaphas which was high priest that same year.

Trial was illegal:

- ✓ It occurred at night.
- ✓ Accused could not be compelled to testify against himself
- ✓ Officer slapped Jesus without justification, role of judge was to protect the accused and prevent his abuse.

John 18: 19-24

19-The high priest then asked Jesus of His disciples and of His doctrine.

20-Jesus answered him I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort, and in secret have I said nothing.

21-Why askest thou Me? Ask them which heard Me, what I have said unto them: behold they know what I said.

22-And when he had thus spoken one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying “Answerest thou the high priest so?

23-Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil , bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?

24-Now (therefore) Annas sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

The Jewish Trial: Part II

Then Jesus taken before the high priest Caiaphas, sometime before daybreak.

Trial was illegal:

- ✓ It occurred at night
- ✓ Not in public, but at the home of Caiaphas
- ✓ Judges acting as prosecutors, actively seeking testimony against Jesus.
- ✓ Illegally puts Jesus under oath and compels him to testify.
- ✓ High priest pronounced Jesus guilty before a vote was taken.
- ✓ More physical abuse.

Matthew 26: 59-68

59-Now the chief priest and elders and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus to put Him to death.

60-But found none: yea though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses.

61-And said, "this fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days."

62-And the high priest arose and said unto Him "Answerest Thou nothing? What is it which these witness against thee?"

63-But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto Him I adjure Thee by the living God that Thou tell us whether Thou be the Christ, the Son of God.

I adjure thee = I put thee on thine oath.

64-Jesus sayeth unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, hereafter shall ye see the son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

65- Then the high priest rent his clothes saying, "He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold now ye have heard His blasphemy.

66-What think ye? They answered and said "He is guilty of death".

67-Then they spit in His face and buffeted Him; and others smote Him with the palms of their hands.

Buffeted = cuffed or slapped

68-Saying prophesy unto us, Thou Christ Who is he that smote Thee?

The Jewish Trial: Part III

Jesus taken before the elders of the people, chief priest, scribes, and led into their council.

This trial was illegal.

- ✓ Done before the morning sacrifice, again without public scrutiny .
- ✓ Jesus compelled to testify.

Luke 22: 66-71

66-And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priest and the scribes came together, and led Him into their council saying

67-"Art Thou the Christ? Tell us ." And He said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe:

68-And if I also ask you, ye will not answer Me , nor let Me go.

69-Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.

70-Then said they all “Art Thou then the Son of God?” And He said unto them, Ye say that I am.

71-And they said, What need we any further witness? “ For we ourselves, have heard of His own mouth.”

The Roman Trial: Part I

Sometime soon after daybreak. Jesus brought before Pilate. (Pilate, Roman Governor)

- ✓ Note now that the charge is not blasphemy, but treason.
- ✓ Pilate finds no fault in Jesus.

Luke 23: 1-7

1-And the whole multitude of them arose, and led Him unto Pilate

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.

3-And Pilate asked Him saying “Art Thou King of the Jews?” And He answered him and said, “Thou sayest it”

4-Then said Pilate to the chief priest 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.”

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.

The Roman Trial: Part II

Jesus brought before Herod.

Luke 23: 8-12

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.

(**Isa. 53:7** – He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He openeth not his mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not his mouth.

10-And the chief priest and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him.

11-And Herod with his men of war set Him at naught , and mocked Him, and arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.

The Roman Trial: Part III

Jesus brought back before Pilate.

- ✓ Again Pilate finds no fault in Jesus.

Luke 23: 13-24

¹³And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

¹⁴Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined Him before you, have found no fault in this man

touching those things whereof ye accuse Him:

¹⁵No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto Him.

¹⁶I will therefore chastise Him, and release Him.

¹⁷(For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.)

¹⁸And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us

Barabbas:

¹⁹(Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.)

²⁰Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them.

²¹But they cried, saying, Crucify Him, Crucify Him.

²²And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath He done? I have found no cause of death in Him: I will therefore chastise Him, and let Him go.

²³And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that He might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed.

²⁴And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required.

Matthew 27: 24

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.

THE SCOURGING

John 19:1

19-Then Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged him.

Scourged = Gr. Phragello: A means of inflicting severe suffering, vengeance or punishment.

Instruments Used in Scourging\Flogging

Flagrum: short whip with lead balls and sheep bones tied into leather thongs.

Flogging Post.

Scourging Practices:

Legal preliminary to every Roman Execution. Man was stripped of his clothing and tied to the flogging post. Back, buttocks, and legs, were flogged either by two soldiers or by one who alternated positions. Scourging intended to weaken the victim to a state just short of death or collapse. After the scourging the soldiers often taunted the victim.

Medical Aspects of Scourging:

The iron balls would cause deep contusions, the leather thongs and sheep bones would cut into the skin and subcutaneous tissues. As the flogging continued, the lacerations would tare into the underlying skeletal muscles and produce quivering ribbons of bleeding flesh.

CRUCIFIXION

Instruments Used:

Crossbar: (patibulum), victim made to carry the crossbar himself to the execution site.
Weight between 75lbs and 125 lbs. Usually 5-6 ft. wide.

Stripes: upright post already at execution site. Usually 6-8 ft. in height.

Nails: 3/8" dia., 5 to 7 inches long.

Crucifixion Practices:

Used by the Romans from approximately 6th century BC to 4th century AD. Although the Romans did not invent crucifixions they perfected it as a form of capital punishment designed to produce a slow death while maximizing pain and suffering.

It was one of the most disgraceful and cruel methods of execution and usually was reserved only for slaves, foreigners, revolutionaries, and the vilest of criminals. Roman law usually protected Roman citizens from crucifixion, except perhaps in the case of desertion by soldiers.

At the site of execution, by law, the victim was given a bitter drink of wine mixed with myrrh (gall) as a mild analgesic. The criminal was then thrown to the ground on his back, with his arms outstretched along the patibulum. The hands could be nailed or tied to the crossbar, but nailing apparently was preferred by the Romans.

After both arms were fixed to the crossbar, the patibulum and the victim, together, were lifted onto the stipes.

In 337 AD Emperor Constantine abolished it in his empire, out of veneration for Jesus Christ.

Nailing of Wrists:

Victim nailed in wrist between carpals and radius.

Nailing of the Feet:

Feet nailed together one atop another to the stripe. Location of nail through second intermetatarsal space.

THE CRUCIFIXION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 27: 27-31, 33-37, 39-43, 45-46, 48-50

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.

Smote = kept beating

31-And after they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, and put His own raiment on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him.

33-And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull.

34-They gave Him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof , He would not drink it.

35-And they crucified him and parted His garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet. “They parted My garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

36-And sitting down they watched Him there;

37-And set up over His head His accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

39-And they that passed by reviled Him wagging their heads,

40-And saying , “Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it, in three days, save Thyself. If Thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

41-Likewise also the chief priest mocking him, with the scribes and elders said,

42-He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He be the king of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.

43-He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him: for He said “I am the Son of God”

45-Now from the sixth hour, there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

46-And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice saying “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani” that is to say “ My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?”

48-And straightway one of them ran- and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.

49-The rest said “Let be let us see whether Elias will come save him.

50-Jesus when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

Ghost = spirit.

John 19: 25-30, 32-37

25-Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

26-When Jesus therefore saw His mother and the disciple standing by, whom He loved, He saith unto His mother, “Woman, behold thy son.”

Woman = Gr. Madam, a respectful form of address. Not as in Eng.

27-Then saith He to the disciple, “Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.

28-After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, “I thirst.”

Note: ‘all things were now accomplished’ - He saw the casting of the lots, **(PS 22:18)** and new that all the Scripture had foretold of others was finished. Yet there was still a prediction for Him to realize. **(PS 69:21)**

29-Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to His mouth. **(PS 69:21)**

30-When Jesus therefore has received the vinegar , He said “it is finished” and he bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.

32-Then came the soldiers and break the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him.

33-But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they break not his legs: **(EX 12:46)**

34-But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side and forthwith came their out blood and water.

35-And he that saw it bear record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.

36-For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, “A bone of Him shall not be broken” (**EX 12:46**)

37-And again another scripture saith “They shall look on Him whom they pierced” (**ZECH 12:10**)

Scriptures fulfilled upon the cross:

PSA 22

PSA 69:21

EX 12:46

ISA 53:7

ZECH 12:10

