

Mark 15 : 16-32

Mocking Majesty

BIBLE STUDY



INTRODUCTION

Starter:

As we reach the climax of Mark's gospel story, he tells us in simple and raw language about what Jesus went through in his humiliating and horrible journey to the cross. In a few words, try to express what Jesus' suffering means for us as his followers.

Pray to start:

Thanking Jesus for his devotion to his Father that meant he was willing to go through this ordeal in order to reconcile us to God. Ask God to show you some of the depth of his love for you, as you contemplate today what Jesus' suffering comprised.

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Read: Mark 15 : 16-32

Let's unpack the passage.....

1. Look at verses 16-20. Imagine you are a soldier being interviewed by a journalist in this scene. Considering the actions of the soldiers, how would you respond to the question 'why did you treat Jesus in the way you did?'
(See also 1 Corinthians 2 v 8)
2. Jesus' journey to the cross fulfilled many Old Testament prophecies. Look at Psalm 22 vv 7-8 and vv 14-18.

How can you see these verses coming true in today's passage? How can this Psalm give us insight into some of the horrors of crucifixion which Mark does not mention?
3. As you go through this passage, what ironies can you see – in which ways was Jesus mocked that actually accord with facts about him?

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GOING DEEPER

1. As Jesus went through these hours, the prophetic verses of [Isaiah 53](#) came true. Read this chapter and reflect on what it teaches us about Jesus as he faced death.
2. Look at [Isaiah 53 v 12](#).
 - Who is victorious at the end of this chapter – the victim or his enemies?
 - What light does this verse shed on Jesus' explanation of his death in [Mark 10 v 45](#)?
 - How would you explain the last sentence of verse 12 to someone who was questioning why Jesus had to die ([Hebrews 7 v 25](#))?



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PRAY

We see ourselves clearly in this passage. We are those who mocked him. Everybody abandoned him. Our hearts are crushed, and our consciences are smitten.

But we see Jesus, who willingly endured the mocking and the spitting...For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, despising the shame.

Because he took the shame, we don't have to be ashamed.

Help us to trust in him and in what he did.

We pray this in Jesus' name

Amen

