

Title: Hail King of the Jews!

Passage: Mark 15:16-32

Context of Passage:

Mark 15:12-15

And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Isaiah 52:14

As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind

Psalms 129:3

The plowers plowed upon my back; they made long their furrows.

Passage: Mark 15:16-32

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

EXPOSITION

Introduction

Notice many of the verses in the passage began with "And"

- Mark's view of Calvary: the mockery of THE King
- How?
 - Royalty - crowned in purple
 - Mockery - "Hail, the King of the Jews!"
- Notice Jesus' silence through it all

1 Peter 2:23

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

Judges 16:30

And Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines." Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.

- like Samson, Jesus would do more in death

Overview

I. Hail the King of the Jews (v. 16-20)

II. The King refused relief (v. 21-25)

III. Behold and Believe the King of Israel (v. 26-32)

I. Hail the King of the Jews (v. 16-20)

Mark 15:16

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion.

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters),

- Under Roman Empire
- Jesus was born under Rome's first emperor
- All by God's design and sovereignty.

and they called together the whole battalion.

- Battalion = 600 soldiers

Psalms 2:12

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Mark 15:17

And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him.

And they clothed him in a purple cloak

- Clothed = Jesus was previously scourged naked in humiliation
- Purple cloak = expensive clothing
- Crown of thorns = mockery of royalty

Mark 15:18

And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

- Sin blinds people to the truth.
- Sinners mock the Savior.

Mark 15:19

And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him.

And they were striking his head

Matthew 27:30

And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head.

spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him.

Mark 10:33-34 (according to God's plan)

saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

Mark 15:20

And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

And when they had mocked him

Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him

- transition to bringing him to the place of crucifixion

And they led him out to crucify him.

II. The King refused relief (v. 21-25)

Mark 15:21

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

- Why? Jesus was so weak and close to death that He couldn't carry the wooden beam for His crucifixion.
- Consider the offense to Simon
 - a Jew forced to touch someone who is undefiled under the Law and would become undefiled himself during this special time when the Passover was happening.

Deuteronomy 21:22-23

"And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree, his body shall not remain all night on the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for a hanged man is cursed by God. You shall not defile your land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance.

Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus

Acts 2:10 (early Christians from Cyrene)

Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome,

Romans 16:13 (reference to family)

Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; also his mother, who has been a mother to me as well.

- God's sovereign influence on Simon of Cyrene.

Mark 15:22

And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull).

Brought him

- Jesus was so weak that they brought Him there. He was unlikely able to walk on his own strength or accord.

Golgotha

John 19:17

and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.

Hebrews 13:12

So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.

All under God's definite plan and purpose

Acts 2:23

this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Acts 4:10-11

let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.

Mark 15:23

And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it.

they offered him wine mixed with myrrh,

Proverbs 31:6

Give strong drink to the one who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress;

He did not take it

Mark 14:25

Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Romans 15:3

For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.”

- Jesus chose to suffer willingly, completely, and clearly.

Isaiah 50:6-7

I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

Mark 15:24

And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take.

divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take.

Psalms 22:14-18

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

- Old Testament prophecy of the Messiah

Mark 15:25

And it was the third hour when they crucified him.

- Third hour = 9am
 - Crucifixion of Jesus was historical fact.

III. Behold and Believe the King of Israel (v. 26-32)

Mark 15:26

And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.”

- Satan will have you believe anything about Jesus as long as Jesus is not your King.
 - Merely a teacher or prophet or simple person among many.
- Or do we truly know Jesus as the King?

Mark 15:27

And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left.

Isaiah 53:3

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Mark 15:29

And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads

Isaiah 52:14

As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind

Mark 15: 30-31

So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe."

- sin clouds and blinds so that it views Jesus with false narratives.

Isaiah 5:20-21

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!

Mark 15:32

Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

- At this point, both criminals crucified with Jesus were mocking Him.

Luke 23:39-42 (but one of the criminals repented)

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

- Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom = recognized Jesus as King.
- But notice not both were changed. One criminal still died in his sins
- Do not presume God's grace and mercy.

Implications

Jesus' sacrifice was for you!

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter

of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

- What joy? Joy of saving/redeeming sinners - including you!

Psalms 2:4-6

He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,
"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."

- I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill = I have laid down my Son on Zion, crucified on the hill

Luke 23:34

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

- Jesus compassion is clear, even when on the cross.
- No sin or past exists that cannot be forgiven through faith in Christ.

Isaiah 59:1

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

Hold fast to Jesus

- Consider key promises in the Bible in light of Jesus' suffering.

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

Philippians 1:29

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,

1 Peter 4:12-14

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Ephesians 1:18-20

having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,

Song: "Man of Sorrows. What a Name!"

Man of Sorrows," what a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood;
Sealed my pardon with His blood;
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

Passages Shared During Service

Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.