

## Luke 23:1-49

### Jesus before Pilate

**23** Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> before Pilate. <sup>2</sup> They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>3</sup> Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." <sup>4</sup> Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." <sup>5</sup> But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

### Jesus before Herod

<sup>6</sup> When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. <sup>7</sup> And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. <sup>8</sup> When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. <sup>9</sup> He questioned him at some length, but Jesus<sup>[c]</sup> gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. <sup>11</sup> Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. <sup>12</sup> That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

### Jesus Sentenced to Death

<sup>13</sup> Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, <sup>14</sup> and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and

have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. <sup>15</sup> Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. <sup>16</sup> I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”<sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Then they all shouted out together, “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!” <sup>19</sup> (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) <sup>20</sup> Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; <sup>21</sup> but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” <sup>22</sup> A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” <sup>23</sup> But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. <sup>24</sup> So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup> He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

## The Crucifixion of Jesus

<sup>26</sup> As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. <sup>27</sup> A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. <sup>28</sup> But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup> For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' <sup>30</sup> Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' <sup>31</sup> For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

<sup>32</sup> Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus<sup>[e]</sup> there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[<sup>34</sup> Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]]<sup>[f]</sup> And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah<sup>[g]</sup> of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him,<sup>[h]</sup> "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding<sup>[i]</sup> him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah?<sup>[j]</sup> Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come

into<sup>[k]</sup> your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

## The Death of Jesus

<sup>44</sup> It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land<sup>[l]</sup> until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup> while the sun’s light failed;<sup>[m]</sup> and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. <sup>47</sup> When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.”<sup>[n]</sup> <sup>48</sup> And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. <sup>49</sup> But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.