# Matthew: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection Matthew 27-28

## The Council of Chief Priests Hands Jesus Over to Pilate

27:¹ When dawn arrived, all the chief priests and the elders of the people held a council meeting against Jesus so as to put him to death. ² And when they had bound him, they led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

#### Judas Returns to the Priests in Remorse

<sup>3</sup> Then when **Judas**, the one who had **handed him over** to them, **saw that he was condemned**, he was **filled with regret** and took the thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and the elders, <sup>4</sup> saying, "I sinned by handing over innocent blood."

They said, "What's that to us? That's your own business."

<sup>5</sup> And when he had thrown the **pieces of silver into the temple**, he departed, and he went and **hanged himself**.

<sup>6</sup> But the **chief priests**, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is a **price for blood**." <sup>7</sup> But when they met in council, they bought with them **the field of the potter** as a burial place for **foreigners**. <sup>8</sup> Therefore that field has been called a **Field of Blood** to this day. <sup>9</sup> That filled up what was said through the prophet **Jeremiah** when it says that they took the **thirty pieces of silver** as the **price** of one on whom a **price** was set – the one from Israel's sons on whom they had set a **price** – <sup>10</sup> and they gave the silver for the field of the **potter**, "just as the Lord commanded me."

## Jesus before Pilate

 $^{11}$  Now Jesus stood before the governor. "Are you the King of the Jews?" the governor asked him,

"Those are your words," Jesus replied. <sup>12</sup> And while charges were being laid against him by the chief priests and elders, he **answered nothing**.

<sup>13</sup> Then **Pilate** said to him, "Don't you hear all this testimony they're lodging against you?" <sup>14</sup> But **he didn't answer him, not even one word**, so that the governor was quite amazed.

#### Jesus Barabbas

<sup>15</sup> Now at **the feast** the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd one **prisoner** that they wanted. <sup>16</sup> And at that time they were holding a **well-known prisoner** named **Jesus Barabbas**. <sup>17</sup> So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release for you: **Jesus Barabbas**, or **Jesus** the one called **Messiah**?" <sup>18</sup> For **he knew** that it was **out of envy** that they had **handed him over**.

## Pilate's Wife and Jesus' Innocence

<sup>19</sup> But as he was sitting on the elevated tribunal, **his wife** sent word to him, "Don't have anything to do with that **innocent man**, because this very day I suffered so much because of a **dream** about him."

<sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders **persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas** but destroy Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

And they answered, "Barabbas."

<sup>22</sup> Pilate says to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus the one called Messiah?"

They all say, "Let him be crucified!"

<sup>23</sup> He responded, "Why? **What evil** did he do?"

But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

## Pilate Betrays Justice

- <sup>24</sup> So when Pilate saw that he was **gaining nothing**, but rather that a **uproar** was beginning, he took water and **washed his hands** before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; this is your business."
  - <sup>25</sup> And all the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!"
- <sup>26</sup> Then he released for them Barabbas, and after **he had Jesus flogged**, **he handed him over to be crucified**.

# Jesus and the Mocking Roman Soldiers

<sup>27</sup> Then the **soldiers of the governor** took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole **battalion** before him. <sup>28</sup> And they stripped him and put **a soldier's scarlet robe** on him, <sup>29</sup> and twisting together a **crown of thorns**, they put it on his head and put a **reed** in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they **mocked** him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup> And they **spit** on him and took the **reed** and struck him on the head.

<sup>31</sup> And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and **led him away to crucify him**.

# **Getting to Golgotha**

<sup>32</sup> As they went out, they found **a man named Simon, from Cyrene**. They **compelled** this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup> When they came to a place called **Golgotha** (meaning Skullplace) <sup>34</sup> they gave him **a drink of wine mixed with bitter gall**, but when he tasted, he didn't want to drink it.

#### Crucifixion

<sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. <sup>36</sup> Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. <sup>37</sup> And over his head they put the charge against him as it was written: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." <sup>38</sup> Then two insurrectionists were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

#### **Mockery and Insult**

- <sup>39</sup> And **those going by** started **blaspheming** him, wagging their heads <sup>40</sup> and saying, "The one who **destroys the temple** and rebuilds it in three days! **Save yourself!**" "If you are **God's Son**, **come down from the cross**."
- <sup>41</sup> So also the **chief priests mocked**, along with the **scribes** and **elders**, saying, <sup>42</sup> "He **saved others**; **he cannot save himself**." "He's **King of Israel**! Now, let him come down **from the cross**, and we'll believe in him." <sup>43</sup> "He puts his trust in God! Let God deliver him now, if he wants him. For he said, 'I am **God's Son!**""
  - <sup>44</sup> The **insurrectionists** who were crucified with him also **reviled him** in the same way.

#### Darkness, Abandon, Death

<sup>45</sup> Now from the sixth hour (noon) there was **darkness** over all the land until the ninth hour (about 3 p.m.). <sup>46</sup> And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying,

"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"
that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

- <sup>47</sup> And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This fellow's calling **Elijah**." <sup>48</sup> And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink.
  - <sup>49</sup> But the others said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him."
  - <sup>50</sup> And **Jesus cried out** again with a loud voice and **released the Spirit**.

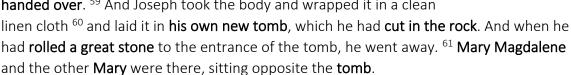
# Things are Split Apart, Opened, Given Life

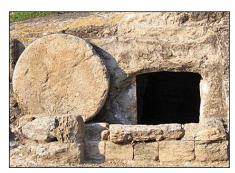
- <sup>51</sup> And behold, the **curtain of the temple** was **split** in two, from **top to bottom**. And the **earth quaked**, and the **rocks were split**. <sup>52</sup> The **tombs also were opened**. And many **bodies** of **holy people** who had fallen asleep **were raised**, <sup>53</sup> and when they came out of the tombs **after his resurrection**, they entered the **holy city** and were manifested to many.
- <sup>54</sup> When the **centurion** and **those with him** guarding Jesus, saw the **earthquake** and what happened, they were filled with **fear** and said, "**Truly this was God's Son!**"

#### The Women and Joseph's Tomb

<sup>55</sup> There were also **many women** there, watching from a distance, who **followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him**, <sup>56</sup> among whom were **Mary Magdalene** and **Mary** the mother of James and Joseph and the **mother** of the sons of Zebedee.

<sup>57</sup> As **evening** was coming on, there came a **wealthy man from Arimathea, named Joseph**, who also was **a disciple of Jesus**. <sup>58</sup> He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and Pilate ordered it to be **handed over**. <sup>59</sup> And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean





## Sealing and Guarding the Tomb

<sup>62</sup> The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the **chief priests** and the **Pharisees** assembled before **Pilate** <sup>63</sup> and said, "**Lord**, we remembered how **that deceiver** said, while he was still alive, '**After three days I will be raised**.' <sup>64</sup> Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, '**He has been raised from the dead**,' and the last **deception** will be worse than the first."

<sup>65</sup> Pilate said to them, "You may have a **guard of soldiers**. Go, make it **as secure as you can**." <sup>66</sup> So they went and secured the tomb by **sealing the stone** with the **guard of soldiers**.

# The Next Week Begins: A New World

28:1 Long after the Sabbath, as dawn was breaking of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

<sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a **great earthquake**, for an **angel of the Lord** descended from heaven and came and **rolled back the stone** and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like **lightning**, and his **clothing white** as snow. <sup>4</sup> And for fear of him the **guards** were **quaking** and became **like dead men**.

<sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "You should not be afraid, since I know that you're seeking Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he was raised, just as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Quickly, go tell his disciples that he was raised from the dead. He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him. This is my message for you."

## On Sunday, after the Seals were Broken: An Alternative Story

<sup>11</sup> While the women were going, behold, **some of the guard** went into the city and told the **chief priests all that had happened**.

<sup>12</sup> And when they **assembled with the elders** and made a decision, they gave many pieces of silver to the soldiers <sup>13</sup> and said, "Tell people, '**His disciples came by night** and **stole him away while we were asleep**.' <sup>14</sup> And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will persuade him and keep you out of trouble." <sup>15</sup> So they took the silver and did as instructed. And **this story** has been told among Jews to this day.

# "All Authority" - The Kingdom of Heaven is Here!

- <sup>16</sup> Now the **eleven disciples** went to **Galilee**, to the **mountain** to which Jesus had directed them.
- <sup>17</sup> And when **they saw him they worshiped him**, but some **doubted**.
- <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came near and said to them,

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

- <sup>19</sup> Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
  - <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

Know that I am with you every day, to the consummation of the age."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> They quickly **left the tomb** with both **fear** and **great joy**, and ran to tell his disciples.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Right then, **Jesus met them** and said, "Greetings!" And they came and took hold of his feet and **worshiped** him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus says to them, "**Don't be afraid**! Go, tell **my brothers** to go to Galilee, and **there they will see me**."