

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on The Gospel of Mark. Today's topic: THE TRIAL AND CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS.

1. Examination before Pilate

- a) Mark 15:1-5 What impresses you about the examination of Jesus by Pilate?
- b) Mark 15:6-14 What are your thoughts about the choice of Barabbas as the prisoner to be released?
- c) Mark 15:15 Why did Pilate have Jesus scourged even though he believed Jesus was innocent? (Luke 23:4)
- d) What lesson can we learn for our lives today?

2. Abuse by the soldiers

- a) Mark 15:16-20 Was this a usual way to treat a prisoner? What is going on here? (Luke 22:63-65)
- b) What are your thoughts when you consider all the suffering that Jesus experienced? (See Isaiah 53:4-5)
- c) Mark 15:21 Who did the soldiers compel to carry the cross of Jesus and what is the significance of the detailed description of this individual?

3. The crucifixion of Jesus

- a) Mark 15:22-32 What impresses you as you consider Mark's inspired record of the crucifixion of Jesus?
- b) Mark 15:33 What is the significance of darkness covering the land for three hours? (Psalm 18:11)
- c) Mark 15:34-37 What are your thoughts about the prayer Jesus offered from the cross, quoting Psalm 22:1?

- d) What other details were prophesied in Psalm 22 regarding the death of Messiah, 1,000 years before they occurred?
- e) What additional information is included in Luke's inspired account of the crucifixion of Jesus? Luke 23:33-34, 39-43
- f) What important truth about Jesus is clearly revealed during His crucifixion? 2 Corinthians 5:21

4. Events following the death of Jesus

- a) Mark 15:38 What was the significance of the veil of the Temple being torn from top to bottom at the exact moment when Jesus died?
- b) Mark 15:39 How was a Roman centurion impacted by the events he witnessed that day? What can we learn from his testimony?
- c) Mark 15:40-41 Why did Mark mention the women who were looking on from afar? (See also v.47)

5. The burial of Jesus

- a) Mark 15:42-45 Why did it take courage for Joseph of Arimathea to ask Pilate for the body of Jesus?
- b) Mark 15:46 What are your thoughts about the way Joseph of Arimathea cared for the body of Jesus?
- c) Who assisted Joseph? John 19:38-42
- d) How can we prepare so we stand courageously as followers of Jesus rather than abandon Him?

