

THE SHAMEFUL ABUSE OF JESUS

--MARK 15:16-32--

INTRODUCTION:

In describing the crucifixion in our passage this morning, Mark focuses on the shameful abuse both verbal and physical of those who ridiculed and scorned the perfect, sinless Son of God. From the scoffing soldiers to the sneering participants who came to see the spectacle of the cross. Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior is seen humiliatingly enduring the punishment for sin in obedience to His Father's will.

I. THE SCOFFING SOLDIERS (Mark 15:16-20)

- a. After Jesus had been scourged, Mark tells us that the _____ took Jesus into the Praetorium.
- b. They dressed Him in a _____ robe, possibly the same one that Herod had put on Him.
- c. After they tired of their _____ of the Son of God, they began to get Jesus Christ ready for His crucifixion.

II. THE SUFFERING SAVIOR (Mark 15:21-25)

- a. Jesus Christ was condemned to death, and for those prisoners receiving the death penalty, they were required to carry the heavy horizontal _____ to the place of execution. (John 19:17)
- b. They chose a man by the name of _____, who was from Cyrene, he was commanded to carry the cross of Jesus the rest of the way.
- c. To us, the choice of Simon by the Roman soldiers may seem random, but in reality it was not, _____ had providentially put Simon at that spot at that time. (Romans 16:13)
- d. Finally, with the help of _____ they arrive at the place of execution.
- e. Before nailing Jesus to the cross, the soldiers first offered Him some _____ mixed with myrrh.

- f. Mark then relates what took place next with one very simple phrase: "and they _____ Him."
- g. Once Jesus was nailed to the cross and it was raised up into the upright position, the soldiers would _____ until the person was dead. (Psalm 22:18)
- h. Mark then notes for us that it was the _____ hour when they crucified Him.

III. THE SNEERING PARTICIPANTS (Mark 15:26-32)

- a. Mark continues to describe for us the scene around the _____ of Jesus.
- b. Mark goes on to tell us that _____ was not the only one crucified that day. (Isaiah 53:12)
- c. As agonizingly painful death by crucifixion was, there was added to this the _____ and disgrace of being publicly executed in such a humiliating manner.
- d. Those who had come to see the _____ of Jesus were the same ones the religious leaders had stirred up.
- e. Not only were the swayed crowds at the crucifixion but the religious _____ who had swayed them were there also. (Psalm 22:7-8)
- f. The religious leaders claimed if Jesus came _____ from the cross and they saw it they would believe in Him.
- g. Mark ends our passage with these words, "*Those who were crucified with Him were also _____ Him.*" (Mark 15:32b, NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

It was against this dark backdrop of venomous hatred that the grace and mercy of God was displayed. God the Father could have destroyed the blasphemers on the spot and brought an end to their abuse of His Son. He also could have rescued His Son from the cross. Instead, as Isaiah 53:10 says, "*But the LORD was pleased To crush Him,*" (Isaiah 53:10a, NASB95) putting Him to death, so that He might rescue countless others, from sin and eternal damnation. Jesus Christ accomplished God the Father's eternal purpose of redemption.