

Did you know the four Gospels devote nearly a third of their length to the last week of Jesus' life. Matthew Mark, Luke and John saw death and resurrection as the central mission of Jesus, this plan of salvation was formed between the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit before the creation of the World.

ESV 1 Peter 1:18 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you¹⁹ It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. ²⁰ God chose him as your ransom long before the world began...

as Jesus final Passover was approaching, Jesus revealed to his apostles... the exact plan...

*NLT Matt 20:17 As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve **disciples aside privately** and told them what was going to happen to him. ¹⁸ "Listen," he said, "we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man **will be betrayed** to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die. ¹⁹ Then they will hand him over to the Romans^l to be mocked, flogged with a whip, and crucified. But on the third day he will be raised from the dead."*

He tells them...He will be betrayed by someone close to him to the Religious elite...who will condemn him...then hand him over to the Romans who will torture him and crucify him...but on the third day he will rise from the dead...

Tonight we pick up the narrative of Jesus' After his betrayal by Judas in an olive grove east of the city called Gethsemane...

Though the Religious leaders had previously decided to do whatever needed to kill Jesus...they knew only the Romans could condemn a person to death and carry out that sentence...and they knew the

Romans did not consider it a crime for anyone to break Jewish religious laws or to blaspheme their God, they could care less...so they would need to paint Jesus as a insurrectionist or terrorist threat against the government, to kill Jesus legally and not create any legal problems for themselves...

So they would need to present charges that the romans would be concerned with.. they came up with three made up reasons...1) He subverts (attempting to overthrow)the nation 2) He opposes taxes 3)He claims He is a king

And we will see this play out...but remember Jesus set this up...

WE pick up the narrative after his arrest in the garden... Matthew

Then to Matthew 26:57-68

NIV MT 26:57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. ⁵⁸ But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

- **An armed contingent of soldiers under the command of the leading priests, and elders of the people arrest Jesus..bringing him to Caiaphas.. the puppet chief priest home**
- **First they would need to take Jesus to their own trial...and convict him of Blasphemy...a crime according to Jewish law as a capital crime...leading to stoning if convicted.**

MT 26:59 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two

came forward ⁶¹ and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.' "

MT 26:62 Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." MT 26:64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. (He stated who he was to the Religious authorities) "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

When the religious leaders heard this...

NLT MT 26: ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror and said, "**Blasphemy!** Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What is your verdict?" "Guilty!" they shouted. "He deserves to die!" ⁶⁷ Then they began to spit in Jesus' face and beat him with their fists. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸ jeering, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who hit you that time?"

- **Home of Caiaphas... Caiaphas political appointee High Priest...their Puppet**
- **As he prophesied ...the religious leaders would condemn him...and hand him over to the Gentiles**

*****On to the Roman trial Three Roman Trials 2)Before Pilate 1)Before Herod**

NLT LK 23:1 Then the entire council took Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor. ² They began to state their case: "This man has been leading our

people astray by telling them not to pay their taxes to the Roman government and by claiming he is the Messiah, a king.”.

The religious leaders knew the Romans did not consider it a crime for anyone to break their religious laws or to blaspheme their God, so they had to paint Jesus as a threat against the government

Pilate a seasoned governor of Judea knew what was up.... so they present three charges that the romans would be concerned with.. 1) He is leading thee Israelites into rebellion.. 2) He opposes taxes 3)He claims He is a king

NLT^{LK 23: 3} So Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus replied, “You have said it.”⁴ Pilate turned to the leading priests and to the crowd and said, “I find nothing wrong with this man!”⁵ Then they became insistent. “But he is causing riots by his teaching wherever he goes—all over Judea, from Galilee to Jerusalem!” First verdict of Innocence there will be three more

Down from Caesarea on the coast of the Mediterranean... for the feast to help oversee any problems

⁶ “Oh, is he a Galilean?” Pilate asked. ⁷ When they said that he was, Pilate sent him to Herod Antipas, because Galilee was under Herod’s jurisdiction, and Herod happened to be in Jerusalem at the time. ⁸ Herod was delighted at the opportunity to see Jesus, because he had heard about him and had been hoping for a long time to see him perform a miracle. ⁹ He asked Jesus question after question, but Jesus refused to answer. ¹⁰ Meanwhile, the leading priests and the teachers of religious law stood there shouting their accusations. ¹¹ Then Herod and his soldiers began mocking and ridiculing Jesus. Finally, they put a royal robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.

So he goes to Herod...He says not a word in the presence of Herod... Herod had spent much time talking with John the Baptist then put him to death... he had heard God's word and silenced God's word ... Jesus had nothing more to say to him ...So Herod sends him back to Pilate ...2nd proclamation of his innocence but beats him anyway

- **Back to Pilate** *NLT^{LK 23:13} Then Pilate called together the leading priests and other religious leaders, along with the people, ¹⁴ and he announced his verdict. "You brought this man to me, accusing him of leading a revolt. I have examined him thoroughly on this point in your presence and find him innocent. ¹⁵ Herod came to the same conclusion and sent him back to us. Nothing this man has done calls for the death penalty. ¹⁶ So I will have him flogged, and then I will release him." Second innocent verdict by Pilate*

Between Verse 16 and 17 beating ... John describes it

NLT*John 19:1 Then Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. ² The soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they put a purple robe on him. ³ "Hail! King of the Jews!" they mocked, as they slapped him across the face.*

After the beating Pilate brings him back out....

⁴ Pilate went outside again and said to the people, "I am going to bring him out to you now, but understand clearly that I find him not guilty." ⁵ Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said, "Look, here is the man!" Third verdict of innocence

Isaiah prophesied what the man would look after the beating 600 years earlier

NLT ^{ISA 52:14} But many were amazed when they saw him. His face was so disfigured he seemed hardly human, and from his appearance, one would scarcely know he was a man.

When the religious saw him...it still was not enough...

******* So Pilate tries one last tactic... he offers to release a real bad guy a murderer and attempted overthrow of the government ...surely they would rather have Jesus released than this guy...nope**

NLT Matt 27: ¹⁵ Now it was the governor's custom each year during the Passover celebration to release one prisoner to the crowd—anyone they wanted. ¹⁶ This year there was a notorious prisoner, a man named Barabbas. ¹⁷ As the crowds gathered before Pilate's house that morning, he asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you—Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" ¹⁸ (He knew very well that the religious leaders had arrested Jesus out of envy.) ¹⁹ Just then, as Pilate was sitting on the judgment seat, *his wife sent him this message*: "Leave that innocent man alone. I suffered through a terrible nightmare about him last night."

- **His wife pronounces him innocent ...For 3+ years he did nothing but help, heal, and delivered people...and at his trial Not one person healed of a disease, not one person released of demonic oppression, not one apostle,**
- **Not one roman leader, came forward in his defense not one person spoke out against the injustice of his trial ...except Pilate's wife who intercedes with Pilate on Jesus' behalf. ...**
- **Her dream is a warning to Pilate from someone he trusts. Out of a crowd of witnesses, God chose a Roman pagan woman—one with no authority, or power—to be an example of active faith and a voice to affirm the righteousness of His Son.**

- Pilate ignores it. So the gospel implies that he really was at fault when he rejected her advice.
- Her name was... Procula governess of Judea, it is said she became a believer, later a widow and was later martyred ...most likely for refusing to perform divine honors before an emperor's statue and was executed... she is honored in the Eastern, Ethiopian, and Oriental Orthodox churches her feast is celebrated on Oct 27th she is known as Saint Procula

²⁰ Meanwhile, the leading priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas to be released and for Jesus to be put to death. ²¹ So the governor asked again, "Which of these two do you want me to release to you?" The crowd shouted back, "Barabbas!" ²² Pilate responded, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ²³ "Why?" Pilate demanded. "What crime has he committed?" But the mob roared even louder, "Crucify him!"

Fourth time proclaimed innocent Pilate intentionally brings out this man...traitor to Rome and a convicted murderer... his name Barabbas means Bar=Son...Abbas =father

- Do you want me to release this son of Abba....or Jesus this son of Abba?

24 *Pilate saw that he wasn't getting anywhere and that a riot was developing. So he sent for a bowl of water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood. The responsibility is yours!" ²⁵ And all the people yelled back, "We will take responsibility for his death—we and our children!" ²⁶ So Pilate released Barabbas to them. He ordered Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip, then turned him over to the Roman soldiers to be crucified.*

- In the end an exasperated governor pronounces the harshest verdict permissible under Roman law...He surrenders to their will to control a riot and not anger his superior...The Caesar.
- Crucify him... odd sentence for blasphemy the penalty is stoning!
- They led Him away...Crucifixion.... common so not explained by the Gospel writers.
- Jesus asks his father to not hold this against as first degree murder...premeditated...but second degree...because they were ignorant ...they did not know what they were doing...

NLT LK 23: 33 When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left. 34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.” And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. 35 The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. “He saved others,” they said, “let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

- **the crowd and leaders had it all wrong...he did not come to save himself!!! He came to save others!!! they had it all backwards**

NLT John 19:29 A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. 30 When Jesus had tasted it, he said, “It is finished!” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

He looked to heaven then bows his head...It is Finished...the reason why he came was completed...the mission accomplished... penalty for sin paid...eternal life can now be offered...

- **Mission Accomplished! The penalty for sin is completely satisfied ...all who receive this gift are forgiven and have unencumbered access to the father**

This is what communion is all about...

1 Corinthians 11:26 For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you **are announcing the Lord's death** until he **comes again**.

*What happens when he comes...His Resurrection and finally ours
We will show a short clip of his final words it is finished...*

Tonight we will each partake in our personal communion in remembrance of what Jesus did for you. Just between Jesus and you! His work is finished, you are forgiven and saved...

- **He Jesus drank the cup of suffering to redeem buy back you from sin and death, and had his body broken for your resurrection...**
- **...after you partake set the cup down at the foot of the cross...signifying your remembrance and acceptance of what he did for you and your union with him...through his body and blood taken into your being. **And know this...to Jesus you were worth it all****
- **Then you are free to leave...but Know this Its Friday but Sunday is coming!!**
- **END.**

- **or Today Communion is taken individually in remembrance of what Jesus did for you. It is Just between Jesus and you!**
- **...it is personal he drank the bitter cup of suffering ..so you may drink the cup of healing..His body so that your body may resurrect...his pure blood in exchange for our sin contaminated blood.. you are eternally healed..**

