

The Saviour – Sentenced

This week – We learn of the Religious Leaders persuading Pilate to condemn the Lord to death.

Isaiah wrote about the Lord Jesus,
**“Surely, He hath borne our griefs,
 and carried our sorrows.”** Isaiah 53v4.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Matthew Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Matthew 27v1-14 (The Lord is silent before Pilate)	
Monday	Matthew 27v15-31 (Barabbas freed, Christ sentenced)	
Tuesday	Isaiah 53 (He was dumb, like a sheep before its' shearers)	
Wednesday	Philippians 2v1-11 (Christ obedient to death on the cross)	
Thursday	John 10v17-31 (Christ gave His life and took it back again)	
Friday	John 19v1-16 (Pilate gives in to Jewish pressure)	
Saturday	Acts 2v14-24 (Peter charges the Jews with Christ's death)	

Important Lesson for us Today: Are we responsible for the death of Christ? Sadly, yes.

You may say, **‘But I was not there.’** Yet, if we, after hearing the Gospel message refuse to turn to the Lord in sincere repentance and faith, just as the crowd, the Jewish leaders and Pilate refused to, then this shows we too would have cried **“Crucify Him, Crucify Him!”**

Maybe, just as the crowd chose Barabbas above Christ, we too have chosen other things above Him? **Maybe**, like the Jewish Leaders, we proudly reject His teaching that we are all sinners, deserving God’s holy wrath? **Maybe**, like Pilate, we go against our conviction that Christ is God because we are more concerned of man’s opinion of us, excusing our cowardice by trying to live a moral life, but not willing to stand out and put the Lord first?

We need to accept our guilt and bow in repentance at the foot of the cross.

Hymn 254 tells of the love of the Lord Jesus Christ for sinners when He died on the cross:

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| 1. My song is love unknown,
My Saviour’s love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O, who am I,
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh, and die? | 4. They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of life they slay;
Yet cheerful He
To suffering goes,
That He His foes
From thence might free. | 6. Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King!
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend,
In Whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend. |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The Saviour Sentenced – The Roman Trial.

- **The Trial Before Pilate. The Charge, “Are You the King of the Jews?”**
 - **The Religious Leaders** - Seeking to have the Lord put to death brought the false accusation that Jesus wanted to be king and overthrow Roman rule.
 - **Pilate** - He knew that Jesus was innocent, but cowardly afraid of losing his job. He planned to set the Lord free by offering to release a prisoner, but the Religious Leaders stirred up the crowd to call for the release of Barabbas.
- **Who Was Responsible for Sending The Lord to be Crucified?**
 - **The Religious Leaders** – They hated the Lord because He exposed their sin. Proud and hypocritical they encouraged the crowd to shout, **“Crucify Him.”**
 - **Pilate** – He failed to set the Lord free, not listening to his wife’s sound advice, **“Have nothing to do with that just man.”** He cowardly went against his conviction, giving in to the Jews. He tried to **‘wash his hands of his guilt’**. Matt 27v24
 - **The Jewish Crowd** – Peter confronted them on the Day of Pentecost - **“Him (Christ), being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”** Acts 2v23
Would we, too, have been ‘ashamed’ of Jesus, joining the crowd in rejecting the Saviour?
- **Surprisingly, The Lord Went To Calvary Willingly – To Save Sinners.**
 - **His Father’s Will.** He prayed, saying, **‘O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt.’** Matthew 26v39
 - **The Lord allowed Himself** to be falsely accused, arrested, without resistance. At His arrest in Gethsemane He said, **‘Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels?’** Matt 26v53
 - **The Lord knew** that dying on the cross would cause Him excruciating physical pain. In the heat of the day, the nails in His hands and feet pulling on His body.
 - **He also knew** that taking the guilt of our sin upon Himself would cause Him great agony of soul, as He would receive His Father’s holy wrath upon Himself. The wrath that, as sinners, we rightly deserve to experience for eternity.
 - **The Lord spoke** of, **‘laying down His life for His sheep.’** John 10v11.
 - **The Lord gave Himself freely and willingly**, to die for His People; **‘for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame.’** Hebrews 12v2

We must seriously consider these things. Find a quiet place to pray and give thanks to the Lord for the great love that He showed when He died to take the punishment for our sin. Do you believe He died to save you? Have you repented?

Paul wrote, **“And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name.”** *Philippians 2vs8,9.*