

COMMENTARY

MATTHEW 27:

vs. 1-10:

When the religious leaders finally delivered Jesus over to Pilate the governor, to be tried by Roman Law; Judas then realized what He had done. Returning the betrayal money and confessing his deed, he realized that he could not undo what he had done. He then left and hung himself.

The chief priests took the money, since they couldn't use it for the treasury (against their law, it being money paid for betrayal), they used it to buy a parcel of ground in which to bury foreigners (fulfilling Jeremiah 32:6-9).

vs. 11-26:

Pilate asked Jesus if He was the King of the Jews, which Jesus admitted to. The religious leaders continued to make other false accusations, to which Jesus would not reply, this amazed Pilate. Knowing that Jesus was innocent, he tried to free him by allowing the crowd to make the choice between Jesus and Barabbas (who was a murderer). Under the influence of the religious leaders, the crowd asked for Barabbas to be freed. Pilate, in the meantime, had been warned by his wife not to have anything to do with Jesus. Pilate then asked what they wanted done with Jesus and the people called for Jesus to be crucified.

Pilate then washed his hands of the matter, trying to free himself from having any part, and turned Jesus over to be crucified, after having Him flogged.

vs. 27-31:

The Roman soldiers mocked Jesus by dressing Him up, laughing at Him, spitting and beating Him on the head. Then they led Him away to be crucified.

vs. 32-44:

Simon of Cyrene was called to carry the cross to Golgotha (Calvary). They offered Jesus a mixture that would dull the pain, but He refused. They cast lots for His clothes after they had placed Him upon the cross with the charge above His head. 2 robbers were crucified on either side of Him. During His crucifixion the people continued to taunt Him, calling for Him to come off the cross.

vs. 45-56:

For 3 hours (from noon to 3 p.m.) darkness covered the land. Jesus cried out to God asking why He had been forsaken (fulfilling Psalm 22:1). The people misunderstood and Jesus finally died. The moment that Jesus died, the curtain in the temple (separating the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place) was ripped in 2 from top to bottom (signifying that man could now enter the presence of God), there was an earthquake, people were raised to life and after Jesus' resurrection they entered Jerusalem and appeared to many people. The Roman centurion and guard were convinced by the events, that Jesus was the Son of God.

COMMENTARY

MATTHEW 27 Continued:

vs. 57-61:

Joseph of Arimathea then went to Pilate and claimed the body of Jesus. He hastily wrapped the body and placed it in his own tomb and rolled a large stone over the entrance. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary watched as this took place.

vs. 62-66:

The chief priests and Pharisees went to Pilate and asked permission to seal the tomb and have it guarded, for fear that Jesus' body would be taken and His disciples claim that He had risen. Having obtained permission, they went out and secured the tomb.

STUDY GUIDE

MATTHEW 27:

1. What decision did the chief priests and elders come to?
2. What did Judas do according to verse 5?
3. What amazed the governor in verse 14?
4. Who did the people ask for?
5. What did the people ask to be done to Jesus?
6. What did the company of soldiers do to Jesus?
7. What was the written charge against Jesus?
8. What did they tell Jesus to do, if He was the Son of God?
9. What happened from the 6th hour to the 9th hour?
10. What happened when Jesus gave up His spirit?
11. Into who's tomb, was Jesus placed?
12. How did the chief priests and Pharisees make the tomb secure?

BONUS:

1. What is your impression of the abuse that Jesus took?
2. Of what significance do you think the events in verses 51-54 are?
3. How would you have felt, if you were one of Jesus' disciples?

