

## Introduction -

I spent the time this week to put together the events of the trial, crucifixion, and death of Jesus. I tried, as best I could, to put the events in chronological order (as they occurred). To do so, I will be using a combination of my own narrated comments, and other times actually reading from various parts of the 4 gospels. Keep in mind, each gospel represents different perspectives, or witness accounts. By combining them all into one message, we get a more accurate picture of what happened, as it occurred.

So, look at today as me walking your through the order of the events, or we can say:  
"Reliving the Easter Story in Chronological Order." Today, will be part 1.

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**Text:** numerous

*Republic, April 13, 2025*

**Title:** "Reliving the Easter Story in Chronological Order" Pt 1

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*Today's message has 4 parts:*

- I. The Total Scam of the Trial**
- II. The Cross**
- III. Who Was at the Crucifixion**
- IV. What happened at Jesus' death**

### I. The Trial

It truly was a scam of a trial. Jesus was falsely accused of many things. They even used the technique of finding things He did or said, distorting it to make it say what He was not saying. They also highly exaggerating things He said, in order to make Him look bad. And, the saddest thing is was Jewish religious leaders were the driving force behind the entire thing.

*Part of the trial was:*

#### A. At Night

##### 1. Jesus was arrested then first taken to Annas, the former High Priest

*John says it like this in:*

**[John 18:12-13](#)** (NIV)

<sup>12</sup> Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him

<sup>13</sup> and brought him first to Annas, **who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, (Kie-uh-fiss) the high priest that year.**

##### 2. Jesus taken to Caiaphas (Kie-uh-fiss), the current High Priest, along with the Jewish leaders.

*Mark tells us in:*

**[Mark 14:53-64](#)** (NIV)

<sup>53</sup> They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, elders and teachers of the law came together.

<sup>54</sup> Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest.

- There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire.
- 55 **The chief priests & the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any.**
- 56 **Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree.**
- 57 **Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him:**
- 58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man.'" *(a distortion)*
- 59 **Yet even then their testimony did not agree.**
- 60 Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?"
- 61 But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"
- 62 "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."
- 63 The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked.
- 64 "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" **They all condemned him as worthy of death.**

The rest of the trial was before government officials on the:

## **B. Next day**

- 1. Jewish leaders urge Pilate to execute Him because Jews had no authority to execute someone themselves.**

John tells us in:

**John 18:29-31** (NIV)

- 29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?"
- 30 "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you."
- 31 Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." "But we have no right to execute anyone," the Jews objected.

- 2. Pilate questions Jesus**

**John 18:33-38** (NIV)

- 33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"
- 34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"
- 35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"
- 36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."
- 37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."
- 38 "What is truth?" Pilate asked...

- 3. Jesus before Herod, then sent back to Pilate**

[Luke 23:8-12;](#)

*Bible Exposition Commentary says this about Herod:*

Pilate sent Him to Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee, the man who had murdered John the Baptist, who was anxious to see Jesus ([Luke 9:7-9](#)). Perhaps the wily king could find some way to please the Jews.

[Luke 23](#) says that Herod hoped to see Jesus do some kind of miracle for him. Jesus chose to be quiet and not play Herod's games. Then Jesus is sent back to Pilate.

#### **4. Pilate seeks to release Jesus, Jews argue, and stir up crowd. Pilate finally gives in.**

*Luke says it like this in:*

[Luke 23:13-17](#) (NKJV)

- <sup>13</sup> Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people,  
<sup>14</sup> said to them, "You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, **having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him;**  
<sup>15</sup> **no, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him; and indeed nothing deserving of death has been done by Him.**  
<sup>16</sup> I will therefore chastise Him and release Him"  
<sup>17</sup> (for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).

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Once a year one criminal could be freed from their charges, kind of like a pardon. When the Jew realized they might not win this argument with Pilate, they tried the technique of asking that Barabbas be released instead of Jesus.

[Luke 23:18-23](#) (NKJV)

- <sup>18</sup> And they all cried out at once, saying, "Away with this *Man*, and release to us Barabbas"--  
<sup>19</sup> who had been thrown into prison for a certain rebellion made in the city, and for murder.  
<sup>20</sup> **Pilate, therefore, wishing to release Jesus, again called out to them.**  
<sup>21</sup> But they shouted, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!"  
<sup>22</sup> Then he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has He done? **I have found no reason for death in Him.** I will therefore chastise Him and let Him go."  
<sup>23</sup> **But they (Jewish leaders) were insistent, demanding with loud voices that He be crucified. And the voices of these men and of the chief priests prevailed.**

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*It's, pretty much, the same story happening in with our distorted news agencies politics for the last 8-9 years, or so:*

Constant false accusations, constant distortions, exaggerations, and naive people who join in demonstrations, having no clue what they are really against. Same story, different day. Same story, same devil.

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[Luke 23:24-25](#) (NKJV)

- <sup>24</sup> So Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they requested.

<sup>25</sup> And he released to them the one they requested, (*Barabbas*) who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

*Matthew gives us this next view of what occurred. The other gospels don't mention this:*

[Matthew 27:24-26](#) (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, **he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood,"** he said. **"It is your responsibility!"**

<sup>25</sup> All the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!"

<sup>26</sup> Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

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## II. The Cross

### A. The path to the cross

*Mark tells us this in:*

[Mark 15:20](#) (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. **Then they led him out to crucify him.**

*John says it this way in his gospel writing:*

[John 19:17](#) (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> **Carrying his own cross**, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).

*3 of the gospel writers tell us about Simon of Cyrene:*

[Mark 15:21](#) (NIV) (Also in [Matt 27:32](#); [Luke 23:26](#))

<sup>21</sup> A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross.

*Luke lets us know about the other 2 criminals crucified at the same time:*

[Luke 23:32-34](#) (NIV)

<sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

<sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, **there they crucified him**, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left.

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."  
And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

### B. The Mocking of Jesus while on the cross

**4 groups of people mocked Jesus:**

1. Those who passed by, 2. the religious leaders, 3. some soldiers, and 4. even one of the thieves who hung on a cross next to Him.

*1. Those who passed by*

[Matt. 27:39-44](#)

<sup>39</sup> **Those who passed by hurled insults at him**, shaking their heads

<sup>40</sup> and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!"

## 2. Religious Leaders

### [Matt 27:41](#)

<sup>41</sup> **In the same way, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him.**

<sup>42</sup> "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.

<sup>43</sup> He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

## 3. Some of the soldiers

### [Luke 23:35-37](#)

<sup>36</sup> **The soldiers also came up and mocked him.** They offered him wine vinegar

<sup>37</sup> and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

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song "**The Lamb of God**" performed by Lee Williams

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## 4. The fourth mocker was one of the criminals on the cross next to Jesus:

### [Luke 23:39-43](#)

<sup>39</sup> **One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him:** "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

<sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence?"

<sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

<sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. "

<sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "**I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.**"

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Even on the cross, with all His pain and exhaustion, Jesus was still winning the lost.

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*It is fascinating to look at who was there. We will find it was mainly devoted women.*

## **III. Jesus' close followers who were there**

Kind of like the old hymn "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"

*Luke tells us about the group of people that followed Jesus to the cross:*

### [Luke 23:27](#) (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> **A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.**

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We don't know who the large number of people were, and we do not know who these particular women were. My guess is at least some of them are the same women that John mentions in [John 19:25](#).

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*4 women were near the cross, at least at this point: (Did they move further away later?)*

## [John 19:25](#)

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

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### 1. Jesus' Mother

**2. His mother's sister (possibly Salome).** Some scholars believe this is Salome, the mother of James & John, 2 of Jesus' closest disciples.

Other scholars disagree that Salome is the person said to be Mary's sister. So, we do not know if it is Salome, for sure.

*Here are 3 reasons I thought about why it might be possible the sister was Salome:*

1. Salome is definitely in the area because Mark mentions her in [Mark 15:40](#).
2. Her son John is there at the cross, so he knows specifically who was there.
3. And, John is the writer here.

I did a search to see if John's gospel ever uses his mother's name of Salome (if he mentions her by that name). He doesn't. So, it would make sense that in [John 19:25](#) that he would refer to his mom as a sister of Mary, instead of calling her Salome. Most people don't refer to their mom by their mom's first name.

So, if this is Salome, we know for sure she is the mother of James and John, 2 of the closest disciples to Jesus. She is the wife of a fisherman named Zebedee. She was one of the women who accompanied Jesus and the disciples and ministered to their needs and travels. And, if it is Salome, she is Mary's sister, and a relative of Jesus.

### 3. Mary the wife of Clopas -

Same person as Mary the mother of one of the lesser disciples called James the Less, who is also sometimes called James, the younger. She is also mother of Joses (or Joseph). We do not know much about Joses.

### 4. Mary Magdalene -

Jesus cast out 7 demons out of her. It totally changed her life. She never forgot Him. This is the way we should be as well after God has done great things for us. It should result in our never forgetting Him, and in our devotion to Him.

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*John has an interesting couple of verses of what Jesus said at this point from the cross:*

## [John 19:26-27](#)

<sup>26</sup> **When Jesus saw** his mother there, **and the disciple whom he loved** (*meaning John*) standing nearby, he said to his mother, "**Dear woman, here is your son,**"

<sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "**Here is your mother.**" From that time on, this disciple took her to his home.

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So, John is the only disciple of Jesus who was there. And, he is the only male follower of Jesus mentioned.

These 2 verses show us, once again, Jesus is still ministering to other people while in the middle of being crucified.

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#### IV. His death

##### [Luke 23:44-45](#) (NIV) **darkness over all the land**

<sup>44</sup> It was now about the sixth hour (*noon*), **and darkness came over the whole land** until the ninth hour, (*3pm*)

<sup>45</sup> for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

##### [Matt. 27:46-47](#)

<sup>46</sup> About the ninth hour (*3 pm*) Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "***Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?***" (*suh-back-tha-nie*) --which means, "**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**"

<sup>47</sup> When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

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One writer points out that this is a quote from [Psalm 22](#). In the days of Jesus they did not have chapter numbers and verse numbers. People would quote the first part of a chapter and then you understood the person was referring to that entire chapter.

*Here are some interesting parts of that chapter:*

##### [Psalm 22](#) (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.

<sup>5</sup> They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted & were not disappointed.

<sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

<sup>8</sup> "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

my hands and my feet.

<sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.

<sup>18</sup> They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,

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##### [Luke 23:44-45](#) *Luke talks about darkness also, and then adds more*

<sup>44</sup> It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour,

<sup>45</sup> or the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

<sup>46</sup> Jesus called out with a loud voice, "**Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.**"

##### [John 19:30](#)

<sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "**It is finished.**" With that, he

bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Mark 15:37-39** (NIV)

- <sup>37</sup> With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.  
<sup>38</sup> The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.  
<sup>39</sup> And when **the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus**, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, "**Surely this man was the Son of God!**"

**Mark 15:40-41** (NIV)

- <sup>40</sup> **Some women were watching from a distance.** Among them (*meaning there were other women, that we may not have heard of before, that were there too*)  
**Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.** (*mother of James and John*)  
<sup>41</sup> In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. **Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.**

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These 2 verses are fascinating.. First of all it implies other women besides the the 3 mentioned in verse 40, were there. Maybe they were lesser known women and that is why their names are not given.

Assuming Salome is the sister of Mary the Mother of Jesus, then all 3 of those women were at the cross earlier. **For some reason they are now mentioned as now "watching from a distance."** *My guess?* There were guards at the cross, and they, at some point, probably made everyone move further back except Jesus' mother & John. Probably they heard what Jesus said about John taking care of his mother, so John was allowed to stay near the cross with Mary.

But, for whatever reason, 3 of the women who were at the cross earlier are now back further away, watching from a distance, according to Mark.

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**Matt. 27:51-54**

- <sup>51</sup> at that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.  
**The earth shook and the rocks split.** (*verse 54 lets us know it was like an earthquake*)  
<sup>52</sup> The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.  
<sup>53</sup> They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.  
<sup>54</sup> **When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus** saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "**Surely he was the Son of God!**"

<sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

<sup>16</sup> Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced  
**Intro Music of the song "Rise Again" starts to play.**



*Luke mentions a centurian too, and also gives us other comments about people as they were walking away.*

**Luke 23:47-49** (NIV)

<sup>47</sup> The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man."

<sup>48</sup> **When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.**

<sup>49</sup> But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

**Song by Dana Ice:** "Rise Again"

**Closing Comments and Prayer Pastor Mike**