

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

JUNE 2, 2021

MATTHEW 27:26-31

INTRODUCTION:

1. **MATTHEW 27.26:** *“Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.”* How can such a travesty of justice been allowed to take place?
 - a) The religious leaders were envious. (John 7.13; 9.22; 12.9-11)
 - b) Pilate was afraid and prideful. (John 19.7,8,12; Mark 15.15)
 - c) It was according to the will of God. (John 19.11; 1 Cor. 15.3)
2. **MATTHEW 27.35:** *“Then they crucified Him”* Jesus would be assaulted in two different ways prior to His crucifixion. (cf. Matt. 20.17-19; Isa. 50.6)

I. JESUS WAS SCOURGED

A. **MATTHEW 27.26:** *“and when he had scourged Jesus”*

1. Consider the act of scourging carried out by the Jews.
 - a) Jewish law allowed one to be scourged no more than forty times. (Deut. 25.3)
 - b) How many times was Paul scourged? (2 Cor. 11.23,24; Acts 22.22-25)
2. The scourging administered by the Romans was much more severe.
 - a) The Romans called the act of scourging, “little death” that preceded “bit death.”
 - b) The weapon used was called a flagellum consisting of nine leather straps. Attached to the end of the straps were sheep bone, pieces of metal, and hooks.
 - c) Scourging was carried out by a professional flogger known as a lictor who had been trained all of his life for this career.

B. Why did Jesus subject Himself to such treatment?

1. Jesus had the ability to prevent suffering. (Matt. 26.53,54; John 18.4)
2. Jesus endured for you. (Heb. 12.2; Isa. 53.5; 1 Pet. 2.23-25)

II. JESUS WAS MOCKED

A. **MATTHEW 27.29:** *“And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him”*

1. Mocked (empaizo): “to sport (as a boy)” [Strong]. It carries the idea of making fun.
2. They mocked Him by dressing Him in royal attire.
 - a) **MATTHEW 27.27,28:** *“And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him”*
 - b) Mark and John refer to it as purple suggesting a scarlet robe faded to a purplish color. Linguistically, they were used interchangeably. (Mark 15.17; John 19.2)
 - c) **MATTHEW 27.29:** *“When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand.”*
3. They mocked Him by spitting on Him.
 - a) **MATTHEW 27.30:** *“Then they spat upon Him”* (Isa. 50.6)
 - b) Being spat upon was shameful and equivalent to having leprosy. (Num. 12.14-16)
4. They mocked Him by striking Him.
 - a) **MATTHEW 27.30:** *“took the reed and struck Him on the head.”* (cf. Mark 15.19)
 - b) **JOHN 19.3:** *“They struck Him with their hands”* Literally, slapped.

B. **MATTHEW 27.31:** *“and let Him away to be crucified”*