

Treasure Hunt

- How was Barabbas similar to the Lord Jesus? How were they different?
- What OT story does the appearance of Pilate's wife bring to mind?
- What do the parallels between this story and the Lord's trial tell us about each of the characters in the trial?
- What OT ritual did Pilate adopt to evade responsibility for the Lord's death?
- How are the roles of priest and elder reversed in this ritual?
- What is the main theme of the description of our Lord's crucifixion?
- How would the participation of Simon of Cyrene put the Lord to shame?

Contrasting Parties in Matt 26-28

	The Lord's Friends	Transition	The Lord's Enemies
Purpose: Jesus' Death	26:1-2 Fourth Announcement		26:3-5 Planning in the Palace
Preparation for Death	26:6-13 Anointing in Bethany		26:14-16 Contract with Judas
The Lord is betrayed /delivered	26:17-46 Jesus with the Disciples: Last Supper (Judas), Gethesemene (Peter)		
		26:47-56 from the Disciples to the Jews (Judas)	
			26:57-27:56 Jesus with the Jews: Trials (Peter, Judas), Crucifixion (women)
Preparation for Burial	27:57-61 Joseph of Arimathea		27:62-66 Sealing the Tomb
Responses to the Resurrection	28:1-10, 16-20 Spread the gospel		28:11-15 Deny the Resurrection

The Trial before Pilate and the Book of Esther

Description	In Esther	In Matthew
Righteous Jew, unjustly persecuted	Mordecai	Jesus
Jealous opponent	Haman	Jewish leaders
Legal authority responsible to condemn the guilty and justify the righteous	King Ahasuerus	Pilate
Wife who interrupts the judge	Esther	Pilate's Wife

Understanding Pilate's Decision

Luk 13:1 There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

Deu 21:5 And the priests the sons of Levi shall come near; for them the LORD thy God hath chosen to minister unto him, and to bless in the name of the LORD; and by their word shall every controversy and every stroke be *tried*: 6 And all the elders of that city, *that are* next unto the slain *man*, shall wash their hands over the heifer that is beheaded in the valley: 7 And they shall answer and say, Our hands have not shed this blood, neither have our eyes seen *it*.

Deu 27:12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin: 13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. 14 And the Levites shall speak, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice, 15 Cursed *be* the man that maketh *any* graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth *it* in a secret *place*. **And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.**

The Scriptural Shaming of the Lord

Mt 27:	Who?	Reference
27-30, 37 Mock enthronement	Soldiers	Isa 50:6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting .
32 a "Simon" carries his cross	Soldiers	Mat 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any <i>man</i> will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross , and follow me.
34, 47 undrinkable beverage	Soldiers	Psa 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
35 nakedness	Soldiers	Psa 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. ... 18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Mt 27:	Who?	Reference
38 despised courtiers	Soldiers	Mat 20:21 Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left , in thy kingdom.
40 questioning his divine sonship	Passers by	Mat 4:3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God,
41-43 let God save him	Priests, Thieves	Psa 22:7 All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, <i>saying</i> , 8 He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.
45-46, abandoned by God	God	Psa 22:1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

Further Context

The Context of Gall and Vinegar (vv. 34, 47)

Psa 69:19 Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries are all before thee. 20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none. 21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Did Jesus know why God forsook him (v. 46)?

Mat 20:28 the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mat 26:39 O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*.