

Mt. 27:26-31 **THE SCOURGING AND MOCKERY OF JESUS**

Introduction:

In between the trials of Jesus and the crucifixion of Jesus there was a very horrible event that took place. It was the scourging and mockery of Jesus.

I /The horror of this event

- A. It would have been horrifying even if the scourging had been done by the Jews, but it was more horrifying because it was done by the Romans.
- B. The Jews stripped their victims only to the waist, but the Romans stripped their victims of all garments with the possible exception of of a loin cloth.
- C. The Jews limited the number of blows by the whip to 40 stripes save one , thus 39, whereas the Romans had no limit to the number of stripes. (The number of stripes was determined by the man who did the beating and the Romans were not known for being lenient, but rather for their cruelty.)
- D. Another thing which made this a very cruel event was the manner in which the Romans prepared the victim for the beating.
 - 1. They \tied the victim to a post with the body of the victim being bent at the waist and the arms extended forward.
 - 2. This position stretched the skin of the back tight and made it easier for the whip to cut the skin and cut into the flesh beneath the skin.
- E. In addition to this they had pieces of of bone and pieces of lead tied to the tip end of the whip. (Wherever the tip struck the body it cut deeply into the flesh.)
- F. The man who did the scourging was a strong Roman soldier and they usually chose a man who enjoyed this kind of torture. (He would show no mercy to the victim.)
- G. On some occasions the Romans were known to use rods instead of whips.
- H. Many a strong man had died under such cruelty
- I. It was so cruel that the Romans would seldom ever crucify a man who was a Roman citizen no matter what he had done.
- J. This kind of cruelty was usually administered to slaves only.
- K. Jesus was not beaten because of any wrong doing which He had done.
 - 1. He had not sinned against the government.
 - 2. He had not sinned against any human being.
 - 3. He had not sinned against God the Father in heaven.
 - 4. He was beaten because of our sins. Isa. 53:4-6.
 - a. He was beaten by the cruel Jews who beat Him with their hands, (fists)
 - b., He was beaten by the cruel Roman soldier who wielded the whip.
 - 5. Unseen to human eyes He was beaten by God the Father, Isa. 53:4-5.
 - 6. Every blow that landed on Him rightly belonged on me ----- and on you, Isa. 53:5-6.
- L.. The chief reason that He was beaten was so that we could be spared the just punishment of our sins, Isa. 53:5.
 - 1. Because He was beaten the guilty sinner who repents and trust in Him for salvation is set free.
 - 2. We are free; we are healed; we are saved. .

II. The mockery of Jesus

- A. There was more than physical pain which Jesus suffered; He suffered cruel mockery.
- B. The whole band of soldiers joined in the mockery.
 - 1. In mockery they put on Him a scarlet robe
 - 2. He had said that He was the King of a kingdom which was not of this world.
 - 3. So they dressed him a robe which was the color which kings customarily wore and bowed before Him as though they thought He was a king. V. 28-29. . .
 - 4. This mockery which He endured from this huge band of soldiers was the same kind of mockery that He had already endured from Herod's soldiers.
- C. But in this mockery there was a new element: there was physical suffering.
 - 1. They put a crown of thorns upon His head.
 - 2. They beat those thorns down into His brow with a reed, V. 29-30.
 - 3. But the emotional cruelty was still there: They bowed before Him and in mockery hailed Him as King of the Jews, V. 29.
 - 4. They even spit in His face, V. 30.
- D. After the mockery Jesus was led away to even greater suffering on the cross, V. 31..

Conclusion:

Oh, how God loves us!

Oh, how Jesus loves us!

If you have never confessed to God that you are an unworthy sinner then I am going to ask you to do so right now.

If you have never called upon Jesus and asked Him to save your unworthy soul then I am going to ask you to do so right now.

If you have never surrendered your life to live for the Lord then I am going to ask that you do so right now.