

Mark 15:15-21 –Jesus endured torture for you

TSK, JFB, GreekLexicon, Henry, Poole, Gill, Calvin, Brink, Trapp, Robertson, Vincent, Barnes, Clarke, Expositors, Geneva, Handfuls, PNT, Family Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Jesus truly loved you so he **obeyed for you**, he was **betrayed for you**, **abandoned for you**, **denied for you**, **falsely accused for you**, **condemned by the religious leaders for you**, and was **tried and innocently condemned by civil leaders for you**. But that was not the end of what he did for you. **Jesus had to endure 2 tortures for you**. You will hear of this today.

Our headings are:

Jesus was Physically Tortured

Jesus was Mentally Tortured

Our goals are: **That you see what Jesus endured for you, that you thank him for it, and that you will be willing suffer for him.**

Jesus was physically tortured

15 So Pilate, **wishing to satisfy the crowd**, released for them Barabbas, and **having scourged** Jesus, he **delivered him to be crucified**.

1. Pilate ascended to his throne and pronounced the Lord Jesus guilty of blasphemy (sin against God) and for instigating rebellion (sin against man) and condemned him to death.

This confirmed **Jesus' condemnation was an official legal judgment.**

2. Pilate then ordered that Jesus be tortured before he was killed.

Pilate could have beheaded him...which was relatively painless. But he ordered the Lord to be tortured before execution.

Pilate did not wait even for a few days for a review. He ordered execution the same day. (It is likely, because of this, Rome passed a law requiring at least 10 days wait before execution.) Pilate did not give him 10 minutes to prepare for death.

Pilate wanted the people and the Jewish leadership to love him so he killed Jesus.

Pilate should have executed the infamous Barabbas and released the innocent Jesus. In this he symbolized Christ's work.

3. How did Pilate torture the Lord?

Our Lord, who created heaven and earth and who came to save the world because man fell into sin, was stripped naked, fastened to a pillar, and severely whipped across his bare back.

What is the significance of this? The whips had hooks that dug into the flesh...and were then dragged across his back so that **they made furrows on his back**, as the Psalmist prophesied and Isaiah described.

Psalms 129:3 The plowers plowed on my back; **They made their furrows long.**"

Isaiah 50:6 I **gave My back to those who struck Me**, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

The scourging of the Lord was an unbelievable example of **the state overuse of power**, considering that Pilate **knew Jesus was innocent**. (Who says that someone is innocent and then kills him?)

The Romans, who tortured Jesus for the Jews, **did not have the moderation to stop at 39 lashes**, as the Jews had. And who **tortures a man who was about to be killed** anyway?

16 And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they **called together the whole battalion**.

4. The Roman soldiers, called for more soldiers to join them to continue to torture Jesus. They tied Jesus with rope or chains as a common criminal when he was arrested (Jn 18:12), when he was taken before Annas and Caiaphas (Jn 18:24), and when he was sent to Pilate (Mk 15:1). **And they chained him here again!**

What is the significance of being tied? The bound Lord pictured the perfect bound sacrifice prepared for the altar. This is the same picture of the Lord Jesus in the life of Isaac, when he was tied and about to be sacrificed.

Genesis 22:8 And Abraham said, "My son, **God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.**" So the two of them went together. 9...And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he **bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood**. 10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." 12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad..."

This was a picture of you who were bound in sin and slavery! You were in him. It was as if you were tied. He took full responsibility for you.

5. The Romans continued to torture the Lord by surrounding him, quite an intimidating move.

Matthew 27:27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him.

This group was made up of 400-1200 soldiers.

They hit him in the face. With blood running down his face and his back soaked in blood, they led him to the cross to kill him.

Mark 14:65 Then some began to spit on Him, and **to blindfold Him, and to**

beat Him, and to say to Him, "Prophecy!" And the **officers struck Him with the palms of their hands**.

What is the significance here? This was an OT picture of Christ- that the wicked would surround him to kill him.

Psalms 22:16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

6. Lessons:

a. You should have been physically tortured because of your sins, but the Lord Jesus did not leave you to die in your sins!

John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, than to **lay down one's life for his friends**.

Put another way, you can see the benefit of his stripes: You were healed from your sins.

Isaiah 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And **by His stripes we are healed**.

b. Barabbas was the perfect example of the people for whom Jesus took their place!
You were Barabbas-death deserving!

c. Always watch your motive! The Jewish leaders wanted to kill Jesus, not because he was guilty of the charges of which they accused him, but because they were losing their influence – their power and their money. The people learned how to properly serve the Lord.

Jesus was Mentally Tortured

17 And they clothed him in a **purple cloak**, and twisting together a **crown of thorns**, they put it on him.

1. Jesus' torturers then stripped him naked (Matthew 27), beat him, and put on a purple (reddish purple) cloak on him.

Matthew called the color red. But there is no contradiction here with the two accounts. Most colors are not pure and can be seen in different ways. Teal for example, could be considered blue or green. The cloak was a reddish, purplish color.

Putting on "kings" color was **done in order to mock him**.

What was the significance of the stripping of Jesus?

Jesus was taking away the shame Adam and Eve felt in the garden **when their sins were exposed and naked!** (Genesis 3:7)

What is the significance of the reddish purple cloak?

The reddish purple cloak pictured the scarlet sins of the whole world. Jesus came as king of the world to bear the sins of the world...and his evil torturers unknowingly pictured it.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your **sins are like scarlet**, They shall be as white as snow; Though they **are red like crimson**, They shall be as wool.

This was a fulfillment of Jacob's prediction concerning Jesus who came from Judah.

Genesis 49:11 Binding his donkey to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine, He **washed his garments in wine, And his clothes in the blood of grapes.**

These Roman soldiers were fulfilling the greatest event in the history of the world!

2. Jesus' torturers then twisted a crown of thorns on Jesus' head.

They did this to humiliate him. He had no diadem on his forehead like real kings. He had no golden crown.

What is the significance of the crown of thorns? In putting the crown of thorns on Jesus forehead, the Jewish leaders and Pilate were showing the marks of the curse on his head. Thorns came as a result of the curse on Adam. This crown of thorns must have been painful...hitting raw nerves in his forehead, but it is the insult that would have hurt more.

18 And they began to **salute him**, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

3. They fake-saluted Jesus, insulting, not honoring him.

The one who saluted showed that he had no ill will against the one whom he saluted. But what a lie! They saluted him and then killed him. **Yet, this fake work was recognizing that he was the King of the Jews, though they were rejecting him.**

19 And they were **striking his head with a reed** and **spitting** on him and **kneeling down in homage to him.**

4. They held out a reed (a long grass) to him, as if they were kings...then hit him with it.

A scepter was a picture of power of life and death to the one who approached to king, but they used it to act like they were going to kill him. But why did they use a weak reed? They did this to **show the weakness of Christ's power.**

5. They spat on the Lord.

How humiliating! A king was kissed, not spat on, like Samuel kissed Saul! But **that was what you deserved so Jesus took it.** Didn't the Psalmist say you must kiss the son lest he be angry and destroy you?

6. They pretended to bow to him, but they did so only with their knees and not with

their heart.

Luke 22:65 And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.
20 And when they had mocked him, they **stripped him** of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him.

7. Those nearby and the soldiers, mocked him as king and then stripped him of his royal cloak.

Verbal abuse can be most painful, especially when one is innocent, but he took it because you were guilty.

What is the significance of the fake saluting and stripping the Lord?

Man **lost his rule** as head of creation. Jesus had to lose his rule (and his robe) so man could get his back. So it showed Christ being divested of his office.

20...And they led him out to crucify him. 21 Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, to bear His cross.

8. The Romans forced Jesus to make a long trek up Mt Calvary (outside the city) with a cross on his back.

9. Lessons:

a. You deserved the insult as fake king, you deserved the crown of thorns on your head and furrows on your back, you were stripped of you leadership after the fall. You deserve to be mocked with that kingly robe. You **deserve for people to spit on you**. You **deserved to be exposed and humiliated. You should have been mentally tortured** for your wretched inherited and actual sins.

b. While you deserve these things, Jesus did not allow you to face judgment for them. He took that judgment for you. What amazing love! What wretched tortures he faced! Your sin-stained soul was made clean again by him taking full punishment for your sins.

Colossians 1:20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

You **now have fragrant oil flowing on your clothes!** You have authority to resume dominion! Christ gave it to you. He said: All authority has been given to me...now you go in my name...!

c. Punishing God's people brings joy to the wicked. Their goal is the same as their father, the Devil: The destruction of the wicked! Know this and expect this. And pray that God would save them.

Conclusion:

Jesus endured physical and mental tortures for you so you don't have to be physically and

mentally tortured. He must have been in extreme physical pain. But he was also mentally tortured, which was worse than the physical torture. He was mocked, spat on, beaten, stripped naked, and insulted. He endured it all for you.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Loved caused Jesus to endure all he did for you. It certainly wasn't your obedience. It wasn't what you could give back, as he needed nothing from you. Yes, it was love that led him and drove him to the cross.

2. How must you respond? Love him. Worship him. Tell others about him...so they can know and experience his love. His love is enough for the whole world so that you are never shorted on his love.

3. Be ready to die for him. (And even if you do, he rewards you!)

4. Jesus will come again as the true king of glory and take you to be with him! He will come, not as a sacrifice for sinners, but as the king coming to claim his children! Will you be going with him?

Finally: If you can't count Jesus' torture as your torture, then you will have to be tortured for yourself? Do you want to be tortured for yourself in hell's eternal fire? **Then do nothing.** But if you want to be saved, ask God to count Jesus' torture and death as yours, and then you will be saved forever.