

Scandalous Grace
March 24, 2015
Mark 15:1 – 16:20

I. Review

A. Arrest

1. At _____, in Gethsemane
2. All those closest to Jesus _____
 - a. They all _____ the bread
 - b. They all _____ from the one cup
 - c. They all vowed to not desert him, even to _____ for him
 - d. And they all _____ him
3. "I will strike the Shepherd and the sheep will all be scattered"
(Zechariah 13:7)

B. Taken to the Home of the High Priest

1. They tried Jesus in a completely illegal trial
2. They charged him with _____
 - a. He had equated himself with _____
3. They _____ him, spitting on and hitting him

II. Jesus Before Pilate – Mark 16:1-5

A. Very Early in the Morning

1. Following the "trial," the members of the Sanhedrin bound Jesus and led him to _____
2. They needed Pilate in order to secure a _____ crime
 - a. The Jews had no power to _____ a criminal
3. They brought a number of charges against Jesus
 - a. But the one that stuck was _____

B. Jesus' Silence

1. Pilate's question was really a _____
 - a. "You are the King of the Jews?"
2. Jesus' answer is neither an admission nor a _____
 - a. "You say so" or "Whatever you say"
3. But that is all Jesus _____
 - a. For it is written, "I was silent. I would not open my mouth, for you are the one who has done this." (Ps. 39:9)
 - b. And "He was oppressed and afflicted; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before his shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth." (Is. 53:7)
4. Jesus' silence _____ Pilate
 - a. Jesus didn't _____ to defend himself
 - b. He had _____ to do his Father's will
 - c. It was a silence of _____, not defeat

III. Pilate and the Crowd – Vv. 6-15

A. Barabbas

1. May have been an insurrectionist
 - a. Which would have made him a _____ to many
2. He may have been a common _____

B. Pilate's Choice

1. He knows Jesus is not _____ of death
 - a. Pilate may _____ Jesus, but that's not a capital crime
2. But Pilate wants to placate the _____
 - a. So he hands Jesus over to be _____ and crucified

IV. The Flogging of Jesus – Vv. 16-20

A. Flogging

1. Customary preliminary to crucifixion
2. Prisoners were stripped and _____ to a post
3. They were whipped with a flagellum
 - a. No prescribed _____ of lashes
 - b. A flagellum was a whip with multiple _____ thongs
 - c. Pieces of bone, _____, or bronze were woven into the thongs
 - d. The flagellum would wrap around the part of the body and, as it was pulled away, it would _____ away the man's flesh
 - e. Many prisoners _____ before they ever got to the cross

B. Mockery

1. Ironically, in their mockery the soldiers are speaking _____
2. Such was the _____ of our Lord
 - a. For it is written, "I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I hid not my face from mocking and spitting." (Isaiah 50:6)

V. The Crucifixion – Vv. 20b-37

A. Public Execution

1. Prisoners were crucified next to the _____ roads
 - a. As a warning to others and a _____
2. Crucifixion was the cruelest, most _____ death ever devised
 - a. Victims slowly died of asphyxiation and muscle _____
3. Mark's recounting of Jesus' passion is done with restraint

B. Carrying the Cross – Vs. 21

1. Prisoners were forced to carry the _____ to the site of the crucifixion (patibulum)

- a. The upright beam was already embedded into the _____ at the site
- 2. Jesus, likely because of his weakened state, was unable to _____ that beam
 - a. So Simon of Cyrene _____ to carry it

C. Wine mixed with myrrh – Vv. 22-33

- 1. Had _____ properties
 - a. Given perhaps to dull the pain or _____ the agony
- 2. Why did Jesus not drink it?
 - a. Perhaps because of his _____
 - b. More likely because he intended to _____ the cup of suffering fully

D. Division of Garments – Vs. 24

- 1. “And they _____ him”
 - a. For it is written, “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was one him, and by his wounds we are healed (Isaiah 53:5)
- 2. Division of garments
 - a. Part of the _____ of the cross
 - b. For it is written, “The divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garments” (Ps. 22:18)
 - c. The _____ think they are in control
 - d. The _____ think they are in control

E. King of the Jews – Vv. 25-27

- 1. A sign above the cross displayed the prisoner’s _____
- 2. King of the _____

F. The Derision – Vv. 29-32

- 1. Wagging of the head was a gesture of _____
 - a. For it is written, “All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads” (Ps. 22:7)
- 2. _____ others
 - a. A reference to Jesus’ _____
- 3. A demand for a _____
 - a. Those who demand a sign will never _____ and never believe
- 4. They cannot see that Jesus is _____ the temple even while hanging on that cross
 - a. It is a temple not made by human _____
 - b. It is the new community of believers in whom God’s Spirit _____

G. The Darkness – Vs. 33

- 1. Darkness was associated with mourning and _____

2. Jesus said darkness would _____ the Great Day of the Lord (13:24)
3. For it is written, "In that day," declares the LORD, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight." (Amos 8:9)
4. Notice this: In Scripture, darkness does not indicate God's _____

H. Jesus' Cry from the Cross – Vv. 33-34

1. Different interpretations
 - a. Most common one being that God turned _____ from Jesus as he hung on the cross
2. Jesus' death, from his perspective and God's perspective is not a tragic _____
 - a. It is the glorious fulfillment of God's _____ of Salvation
3. Jesus is quoting from Psalm 22
 - a. Rabbis often referred to an entire Psalm by quoting the _____ or a prominent verse
 - b. Psalm 22 begins with this _____, but it ends with worship, resurrection, proclamation and _____
 - c. It may seem that Jesus has been forsaken – that God is _____ – but, truly, God was never more fully and forcefully _____ than when Jesus hung on that cross
4. Important application
 - a. Prayers of lament are _____ in Scripture
 - b. It is not the _____ of faith that fuels these laments but rather the _____ of faith
 - c. Jesus' prayer of Psalm 22 would have been comforting to Mark's first _____
 - d. We need to _____ the prayer of lament
 - e. When we face trials, God doesn't expect us to "suck it up"

I. The Death of Jesus – Vv. 35-37

1. Those standing by _____ his words
 - a. They hope Elijah will come
 - b. But Elijah has _____ come
2. They try to give him _____ with vinegar
 - a. For it is written, "They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst" (Ps. 69:21)
3. Loud _____
 - a. Very _____, as crucified victims died of exhaustion and asphyxiation

VI. The Temple Veil and the Centurion's Confession – Vv. 38-39

A. The Temple Veil

1. The veil separated the Holy Place from the _____ Holy Place
2. There is so much meaning in this
 - a. God cannot be _____ to some national shrine
 - b. The _____ between humans and God has been torn away
3. The _____ order of things has been done away
 - a. The temple sacrificial system is no longer _____
4. "Ultimately, God forsakes the temple, not Jesus. Jesus will be raised; the temple will be razed." (Garland)

B. The Centurion's Confession

1. Something in the way Jesus _____ brought this man to faith
 - a. The man _____ for carrying out the execution of Jesus
 - b. If such a one can come to faith simply by witnessing how Jesus died, then _____ can believe
 - c. For it is written, "All families of the nations will bow down before him." (Ps. 22:27)

VII. The Burial of Jesus – Vv. 40-47

A. Joseph's Courage

1. Jewish law commanded a person be buried on the _____ they died
 - a. But not on the _____
2. Joseph was asking for the body of a man convicted of _____
3. He was a _____ of the Sanhedrin that arrested Jesus and handed him over to Pilate
4. It took tremendous _____ for him to ensure a proper burial for Jesus

B. The Women

1. Mary Magdalene
2. Mary, mother of James and Joseph
 - a. This is almost certainly _____ mother
3. Salome
 - a. John and James' mother
4. They were there and _____ where Jesus was buried

VIII. He Has Been Raised! – Mark 16:1-8

A. The First Witnesses to the Resurrection

1. Were _____!
2. Proof that the story is _____
 - a. If the Gospel writers were making the story up, they would have had _____ being the first to the empty tomb

B. God Raised Jesus from the Dead

1. It says, "He has been raised" not "He is _____"
 - a. This, too, was God's _____ and God's doing

C. The Gospel Ends

1. In _____ and disobedience?
 - a. That doesn't seem right

IX. The Ending of Mark

A. First Possibility: Mark Intended to End it This Way

1. His readers knew the _____ of the story
2. Mark leaves it open-ended on _____
 - a. Calling each person to _____
3. This could be, but there are at least a few of problems
 - a. This is _____ atypical of ancient literature
 - b. The Gospel seems to _____ mid-sentence
 - c. Mark made a point of recording Jesus' _____ of his resurrection THREE times

B. Second Possibility: Mark Didn't Finish the Gospel

1. He intended to write more, but something _____ it
 - a. Perhaps his own _____ or the persecution in Rome

C. Third Possibility: Mark Did Finish the Gospel

1. But the last part was _____ due to wear and tear
2. If that is the case, Mark's ending probably looked a lot like Matthew's
 - a. Matthew repeats Mark 16:6-8 almost _____
 - b. Mark focuses on Jesus' _____

X. For God So Loved

A. For it is written...

1. What makes this story so amazing and wonderful is that God, in his love, planned all of this for us!
 - a. Over and over in the O.T., we see God prophesying *exactly* what happened in the Passion of Jesus
2. What is more, Jesus freely gave himself for us
 - a. Because he loved us that much
 - b. And there was no other way to accomplish our salvation

Passion Prophecies from the Psalms¹

Mark

14:1 – to kill him by cunning
14:18 – the one eating with me
14:34 – very sad
14:41 – delivered into the hands of sinners
14:55 – sought to put him to death
14:57 – false witnesses rising up
14:61; 15:4-5 – silence before accusers
15:24 – division of garments
15:27 – robbers are encircled by evildoers
15:29 – mockery, head wagging
15:30-31 – Save yourself!
15:32 – reviling
15:34 – cry of forsakenness
15:36 – vinegar to drink
15:39 – Gentile profession
15:40 – looking from a distance
15:43 – looking for the kingdom of God
16:6 – resurrection
16:7 – command to tell the disciples

Psalms

Psalms 10:7-8
Psalm 41:9
Psalms 42:5, 11; 43:5
Psalm 140:8
Psalms 37:32; 54:3
Psalms 27:12; 35:11
Psalms 38:13-15; 39:9
Psalm 22:18
Psalm 22:16
Psalm 22:7
Psalm 22:8
Psalm 22:6
Psalm 22:1 (11, 19-21)
Psalm 69:21
Psalm 22:27
Psalm 38:11
Psalm 22:28
Psalm 22:29-30
Psalm 22:30-31

¹ Garland, David. *The NIV Application Commentary on Mark*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Press, 1996, pp. 593-94.