

CHAPTER 23

AND the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate.

2 And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.

3 And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, Thou sayest *it*.

4 Then said Pilate to the chief priests and *to* the people, I find no fault in this man.

5 And they were the more fierce, saying, He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place.

6 When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean.

7 And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time.

8 ¶ And when Herod saw Jesus,

he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long *season*, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him.

9 Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing.

10 And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him.

11 And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked *him*, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.

12 ¶ And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves.

13 ¶ And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

14 Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined *him* before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him:

15 No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him.

16 I will therefore chastise him, and release *him*.

17 (For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.)

18 And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this *man*, and release unto us Barabbas:

19 (Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.)

20 Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them.

21 But they cried, saying, Crucify *him*, crucify him.

22 And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let *him* go.

23 And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed.

24 And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required.

25 And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

26. And as they led him away,

they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear *it* after Jesus.

27 ¶ And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.

28 But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children.

29 For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed *are* the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck.

30 Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us.

31 For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

32. And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death.

33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34 ¶ Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his rai-

ment, and cast lots.

35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided *him*, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar,

37 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself.

38 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

39 ¶ And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

44. And it was about the sixth

hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

46 ¶ And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

47 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.

48 And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned.

49 And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.

50 ¶ And, behold, *there was* a man named Joseph, a counsellor; *and he was* a good man, and a just:

51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) *he was* of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God.

52 This *man* went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.

53 And he took it down, and

wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.

54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.

55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.

56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

CHAPTER 24

NOW upon the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain *others* with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down *their* faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen:

remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and other *women that were* with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

13 ¶ And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem *about* threescore furlongs.

14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed *together* and

reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications *are* these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.

22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

23 And when they found not his

body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found *it* even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.

29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake, and gave to them.

31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

32 And they said one to another,

Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,

34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

35 And they told what things *were done* in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

36 ¶ And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace *be* unto you.

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them *his* hands and *his* feet.

41 And while they yet believed

not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

43 And he took *it*, and did eat before them.

44 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 ¶ And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

50 ¶ And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his

hands, and blessed them.

51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

52 And they worshipped him,

and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:

53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

I would like to comment on a portion of chapter 23 today. Verses 39-43 give the account of the two malefactors hanging beside Jesus on the cross. Let us briefly contrast them. First, both malefactors were equally near to Christ. They both had the same opportunity of believing and receiving Him. The distinction is that of a man who is willing to by faith receive Jesus Christ as his own personal Saviour, and one who has hardened his heart and turned away from Christ. How true were the words of the repentant malefactor when he said he was justly receiving the due reward for his deeds. He confessed his sins; he recognized that Christ was the sinless Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and, as a result, Jesus told him, "...today shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Many people have asked me if I believe in deathbed repentance. My response is that I do, but I do not recommend that a person wait until he is on his deathbed before receiving Christ; because we have no promise of tomorrow. In II Corinthians 6:2 we read, "...now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Procrastination is one of the main reasons why men and women are not saved. People keep putting off making a decision for Christ. I have had many people tell me they plan to be saved tomorrow or next week. A dear friend once said, "There are many people in hell today who planned to be saved in the eleventh hour, but died at 10:30."

Just as the two malefactors had the free will of making a choice for or against Christ, so does every individual today. God has given us that free will so that we might make our own choice. God will never force Jesus on anyone. But, neither will He ever reject anyone who comes to Jesus by way of the cross. Through the means of radio, television, the printed page, and every other human effort available, we should try to get the good news of Christ to all men. God has promised in His Word that every effort in His name will be honored. In Psalm 126:6 we read, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed,

shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." What a joy and privilege it is to serve a risen and living Saviour, and to know that He loves us and will sustain us throughout our daily lives.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"The desire of the righteous is only good: but the expectation of the wicked is wrath" (Proverbs 11:23).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 35: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 10.

BIRTHDAY TODAY

ANNIE M. WARFIELD

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1893

DWIGHT MOODY HAD JUST COMPLETED HIS WORLD'S FAIR REVIVAL.

After completing his World's Fair revival in New York City, Moody went alone in his room. After six months of revival he repeated the words of Simeon in Luke 2:29 and 30 which says, "*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.*"

1825

GEORGE MUELLER WAS SAVED.

George Mueller was the famous founder of an orphanage and by faith he fed 1,700 orphans, without any denominational support, and without underwriting—just by faith in God. Somebody has said that George Mueller prayed down over seven million dollars for support of orphans.

1835

TEXAS PROCLAIMED ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM MEXICO.

Maybe you know some preachers in Texas whose name should be called in prayer. Maybe you know

some evangelists in Texas for whom you ought to pray today. Let us remember to pray for them.

1961

THE DEATH OF MORDECAI HAM.

November 1, 1961 was the date of the death of the famous Mordecai Ham, an evangelist. Billy Graham was saved under his ministry. Mordecai Ham was one of the old-fashioned preachers. He once said, "God could die and it would take most preachers and most churches over a year to find out about it." He preached for sixty-one years.

**ON THIS DATE IN
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

1787

First free school in New York City, the African Free School opened.

1910

First issue of the *Crisis*, NAACP monthly magazine, published by editor W.E.B. DuBois.

1927

Death of Florence Mills (32), dancer and singer, New York City.

1942

John H. Johnson published first issue of *Negro Digest*.

1945

First issue of *Ebony* magazine published by John H. Johnson. The first issue sold 25,000 copies.

1946

Dr. Charles S. Johnson became the first black president of Fisk University.

1951

Jet magazine founded by John H. Johnson, publisher of *Ebony* magazine.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 110

AUTHOR: David

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

Though we do not know exactly the circumstances surrounding its writing, we do know that it is perhaps the most important of the Psalms. Martin Luther said that it is worthy to be overlaid with precious jewels. It has been called “the crown of all the Psalms,” “the sun of our faith,” and “the treasure of Holy Writ.” It is amazing how this Psalm reaches out and embraces almost every doctrine of the Bible. It starts off with the trinity, “The Lord said unto my Lord.” We have the incarnation of Christ in the words, “my Lord.” In fact, Jesus Himself expounds this in Matthew 22:42 and 45. We have the sufferings of Christ in verse 4 to offer Himself once and for all and to drink of the “brook in the way.” We have the completed work of Christ in a victory over all His enemies. We have His resurrection in the words, “He shall lift up the head.” We have the ascension and intercession in the words, “Sit Thou at My right hand.” We have the resurrection of the body in the words, “subdue all enemies under His feet until the last enemy to be destroyed is death.” His priesthood is mentioned in the words, “Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek,” and we even have the fact that Jesus sits on the right hand of God.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD’S PEOPLE:

It was used in looking for the coming Messiah and especially in studying for His coming.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:

Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.

A. THE ERROR OF BEING SAVED BY CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

(Assignment 35)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() Titus 1:16

They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

() Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

() John 10:9

I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

() John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me.

() Hebrews 12:14

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: