

# Crucify Him

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

**Mark 15:12-14**, "And Pilate answered and said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews? And they cried out again, Crucify him. Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out the more exceedingly, Crucify him."

They were saying that he wants to change our way of life. He wants to change our nation, He wants to be our Lord, we don't want Him in our lives, etc, etc. Not only were they refusing to believe in Him they didn't even want Him around. Jesus offended them because He told them the truth about themselves. They didn't like what He had to say about the way they lived and what they taught the people. Pilate could even see that He was innocent of the crimes that they charged Him with. His question was, "What evil hath he done?"

Here was a mob of angry people calling for the death of Jesus. They were emotional, angry, and full of hate as they called on Pilate to crucify Jesus. Naturally Pilate, as a judge, wanted to know the charges against the accused. He could see that this was an

unusual case due to the number of accusers and who they were. It would not be usual to see priests, Pharisees, Saducees, lawyers, and such a multitude so angry at someone accused of a crime. Pilate, ever fearful of a riot, wanted to know what caused such an uproar among the people.

Here was a gentile, a Roman, who could see that Jesus was innocent of the charges laid against him. On the other side was his own people crying out for His blood and so full of hate that they had no regard for justice, or truth. Having to lie and to hire false witnesses should have made even the most hard hearted of the crowd realize their error. Yet, all they could do was to try their best efforts to have Jesus killed.

Hate is a strong emotion and blinds those led by it to lose all reason and truth. All they could focus on was obtaining the permission of Roman authority to crucify Jesus. The thought was that if He was put to death then they could continue to rule the minds of the Jewish nation. Their position as priests and leaders would be safe and that was very important to them.

If they had put as much thought and effort into seeking God's will as they did in doing their own will, they might have seen the truth.

In **John 3:2** Nicodemus said, "Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do

these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." Was he speaking of the leaders of the nation when he said, "We know?" Nicodemus was a Pharisee and he believed what he had seen and heard, yet, most of the others saw and heard the same things and denied Jesus as Lord. There is an old saying that says, "There is none so blind as he who will not see." How true that is, and when a person closes his mind to the truth there is no help for him.

As the words of Jesus came to the people many considered it different from what they thought it should be and so rejected it. They didn't believe that they were rejecting the counsel of God, but that is exactly what they were doing. **Luke 7:30**, "But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him."

Crucify him, that was the battle cry of the Jewish leadership. They had closed their minds to the truth and had closed their ranks in unity of hate to destroy Jesus. Here were various groups that had great differences, but they would band together to fight Jesus. How could they be so blind as to ignore the miracles that they had witnessed? Maybe it was just a case of them fearing that they would lose their positions and the power that they had over the people. Satan tried to kill him as a child and now the Jews were seeking to do the same as an adult.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of II Kings intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

**The Shunammite's Son** & 3

... SHE ASKS HER ELDERLY HUSBAND TO BUILD A ROOM FOR THE PROPHET IN A LITTLE ALCOVE ON THE GARDEN WALL SO HE CAN REST PROPERLY ON HIS TRAVELS THROUGH THE LAND...

WE SHALL PUT A BED IN IT, AND A STOOL, AND A CANDLE-STICK, AND TABLE!

... UNDER HER DIRECTIONS, A SMALL ROOM IS SOON CONSTRUCTED BY THE SERVANTS OF HER WEALTHY HUSBAND...

AND WHEN NEXT ELISHA STOPS BY FOR FOOD, HE IS SHOWN THE ROOM THAT IS HIS WHENEVER HE COMES TO SHUNEM....

THE PROPHET IS IMMENSELY PLEASED WITH THE WOMAN'S KINDNESS AND, AS HIS FOLLOWER AND ATTENDANT, GEHAZI, PREPARES A MEAL, ELISHA PONDERES ON HOW HE MIGHT REPAY THIS THOUGHTFUL LADY FOR HER GOOD DEEDS....

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