

## Message #98

## Matthew 27:27-44

It has been said that our most focused interest in Jesus Christ being made flesh lies in the fact that He was made sin. The reason Christ was lifted up on a cross was to draw sinners to God (John 12:32-33).

All of the events surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus Christ found Jesus Christ to be the brunt of terrible mockery and ridicule. Jesus allowed himself to be totally degraded and humiliated. We know from Matthew 26:53 that He could call 12 legions of angels to help Him. The big question is why would the King of Kings put up with all of this?

**JESUS CHRIST WENT THROUGH ALL OF THE RIDICULE, HUMILIATION, AND PAIN OF THE CRUCIFIXION BECAUSE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY SINNERS COULD BE SAVED FROM THEIR SIN.**

There is absolutely no other way a sinner may be saved. Jesus is paying it all.

**GROUP #1 – The ridicule of the soldiers. 27:27-38**

**Verse 27** informs us that the soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium, which was a large palace-type place and gathered the Roman “cohort” around Jesus. A Roman cohort was a group of several hundred soldiers.

- 1) The soldiers stripped Jesus and put a scarlet robe on Him. **27:28**
- 2) The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on Jesus’ head. **27:29a**
- 3) The soldiers put a reed in His hand as a mock scepter. **27:29b**
- 4) The soldiers knelt down in front of Jesus and mocked Him as King of the Jews. **27:29c**
- 5) The soldiers spit on Him. **27:30a**  
Their spitting in His face was a fulfillment of prophecy (Is. 50:6).
- 6) The soldiers took the reed and began to beat Him on His head. **27:30**  
Their beating was a fulfillment of prophecy. Is. 50:6
- 7) The soldiers took off the robe and put on His own clothes and led Him to be crucified. **27:31**
- 8) The soldiers made Simon of Cyrene carry Jesus’ cross. **27:32**  
Apparently Jesus carried His cross part of the way, but along the route they found Simon of Cyrene (N. Africa), who carried the cross. Simon was the father of Alexander and Rufus (Mark 15:21; Rom. 16:13).
- 9) The soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with gall at Golgotha, which Jesus refused. **27:33-34**  
Gall was a drug used to deaden pain, like morphine. Christ refused it, which was also a fulfillment of prophecy (Ps. 69:20-21).
- 10) The soldiers crucified Him and divided His clothes and cast lots to see who got them. **27:35**  
This is also a fulfillment of prophecy (Ps. 22:18). Both the crucifixion and the casting of lots was a fulfillment of prophecy (Ps. 22:14, 16, 18).

- 11) The soldiers sat down to keep watch over Him. **27:36**
- 12) The soldiers put a sign above His head which identified Jesus as Jewish King. **27:37**  
There are three types of crosses: **T**, **X**, and **+**.
- 13) The soldiers crucified Jesus between two robbers. **27:38**  
This also is a fulfillment of prophecy (Is. 53:9).

**GROUP #2** – The ridicule of the on-looking crowd. **27:39-40**

Had Jesus come down off that cross, He would not have been able to save any of them. What none of this crowd knew was that their sneering and wagging of heads is a specific fulfillment of Messianic prophecy (Ps. 22:6-7).

**GROUP #3** – The ridicule of the religious leaders. **27:41-42**

The religious leadership of Israel was all there at Calvary—the chief priest, the scribes and the elders were all there and they, too, were mocking Him.

- 1) They mocked Him as our Savior. **27:42a**  
They challenge His ability to save others by His apparent inability to save Himself. Truth is had He saved Himself, He could not have saved others.
- 2) They mocked Him as Israel's King. **27:42b**  
Their thinking was Israel's King could not be put to death by Roman power. The leaders say if He will come down off that cross and save Himself, they would believe in Him.
- 3) They mocked Him as God's Son. **27:43**  
You are always saying you are the Son of God. Let's see God your Father get you out of this dilemma. The truth is it was God the Father who orchestrated this dilemma. In all reality, the fact that He stayed on that cross proves His Son-ship.

**GROUP #4** – The ridicule of the robbers. **27:44**

It is not bad enough that Jesus was ridiculed by the others, but now even two thieves dying next to Him are also ridiculing Him. Even though one of the robbers would change his mind, the truth is Matthew wants us to realize the King of Kings suffered all of this humiliation.

Why? Why did Jesus allow these terrible things happen to Him? I Pet. 2:24 says this: “and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness for by His wounds you were healed.” John said, “He laid down His life for **us**” (I John 3:16). Paul said, “He was made sin for **us**” (II Cor. 5:21) and “He was made a curse for **us**” (Gal. 3:13).