

# The Gospel of John: The Cross

*John 19:16-28*

## The Final Verdict (v. 16-22)

- Pilate succumbs to the pressure of the Jewish leadership, handing Jesus over to his guards to be crucified
  - The Synoptics report that they beat Jesus nearly to death before having Him carry His own crossbeam to Calvary/Golgotha
- Pilate has a sign made to depict Jesus' sentence: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews"
  - It was typical to have the crime posted as a means of warning onlookers
    - However, there was no crime listed since Jesus was innocent
  - The Jewish leaders object, but Pilate does not change it, again, speaking better than he knows

## The Seamless Robe (v. 23-24)

- Jesus is stripped naked, the custom for crucifixion
- His garments are divided between the four soldiers guarding Him (sandals, outer tunic, belt, and head-covering)
- His inner tunic was of such high quality that they cast lots over who would get to keep it
  - John points out that this fulfills Scripture (Ps 22:18)

## The Entrustment (v. 25-26)

- As His death draws near, Jesus is surrounded by some who knew Him (Mt 27:55-56; Mk 15:40; Lk 23:49), including His aunt, Mary of Clopas, Mary Magdalene, His mother, & the beloved disciple (probably John)
- Jesus entrusts His mother to the care of John
  - It may seem strange for Jesus to entrust John rather than His brothers, but...
    - At that time, Jesus' brothers had not believed in Him as Messiah (7:5), and were likely not in Jerusalem since they lived in Capernaum
    - There is reason to believe that John is Jesus' cousin
- Even while dying, Jesus is concerned for His mother's well-being
  - And faith is more important than biology when it comes to kingdom relationships

## So What?

- Jesus' suffering & death were foretold as part of God's plan to save humanity from sin
- Have we put our faith in Him as our Savior, Messiah, & Lord?
  - If so, that makes us family

**Meditation Verse:** Luke 8:21

**Good Friday:** John 19:16b-27