### Mark

## Chapter 15

1First thing in the morning, the Chief Priests, elders, Scribes, and the complete Jewish religious court was appointed as a council. They bound Jesus and handed him over to Pilate.  
  
2So Pilate asked him:  
  
 ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’  
  
And he replied:  
  
 ‘You’re saying it yourself!’  
  
3Then the Chief Priests started accusing him of many other things.  
  
4So Pilate questioned him again and asked:  
  
 ‘Don’t you have any reply? Look at all the charges they’re bringing against you!’  
  
5But Jesus wouldn’t say anything more, which amazed Pilate.  
  
6Well, it was [Pilate’s] custom to release any prisoner that they asked for at the festivals. 7And at the time, there was one man in jail called BarAbbas that was with a group of rebels who had committed murder during a rebellion.  
  
8So when the crowd came [to Pilate] to petition him to release a prisoner (as it was their custom), 9Pilate asked:  
  
 ‘Do you want me to release the King of the Jews to you?’  
  
10([This was] because he knew that the Chief Priests had only handed him over because they were jealous of him).  
  
11But the Chief Priests stirred up the crowd and had them call for the release of BarAbbas instead.  
  
12So Pilate asked:  
  
 ‘Then, what shall I do with this one whom you call, the King of the Jews?’  
  
13And once again, they shouted:  
  
 ‘Impale him!’  
  
14But Pilate asked:  
  
 ‘Why? What crime did he commit?’  
  
However, they just kept shouting louder and louder:  
  
 ‘Impale him!’  
  
15So, to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released BarAbbas to them. Then, after having Jesus whipped, he handed him over to be impaled.  
  
  
16Well from there, the soldiers took him out into the courtyard of the Governor’s Palace and assembled all the troops. 17There, they covered him with purple [cloth] and braided a crown of thorns, which they slipped over [his head], 18and they started greeting him, saying:  
  
 ‘Rejoice, O you King of the Jews!’  
  
19[Saying this] as they were hitting him on the head with a measuring rod and spitting on him.  
  
Then they got down on their knees and [sarcastically] bowed to their faces before him.  
  
20Finally, after they’d had their fun, they stripped him of the purple [cloth], put his clothes back on, and took him out to be hung on the pole.  
  
21So they drafted a man named Simon (a Cyrenian who was coming in from the fields; the father of Alexander and Rufus) to carry the pole. 22And from there, they took him to GolGotha (which translates as ‘Skull Place’).  
  
23Then, when they tried to give him wine mixed with myrrh, he wouldn’t take it. 24So finally, they hung him on the pole and they threw dice to see which ones would get his clothes.  
  
25It was during the 3rd hour [9am] that they hung him on the pole, 26and they put a sign over him that showed the charge against him:  
  
 ‘The King of the Jews.’  
  
27There were also two robbers that were hung on poles along with him, one on his right and the other on his left. 28And the scripture was fulfilled, which says, ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ [spurious, copied from Luke 22:37]  
  
29Then, those who were passing by started saying terrible things to him, shaking their heads and shouting:  
  
 ‘Bah! O you who would tear down the Temple and rebuild it in three days… 30Save yourself! Come down from the pole!’  
  
31And that’s also the way that the Chief Priests and Scribes were joking about him, saying:  
  
 ‘He saved others, but now he can’t save himself!’  
  
[And:]  
  
 32‘Let the Anointed One who is the ‘King of IsraEl’ come down from his pole so we can witness it and believe in him!’  
  
And even those who were hanging with him mocked him.  
  
  
33Thereafter, [a great] darkness came over the whole land from the 6th to the 9th hours [12 noon to 3pm].  
  
34And at the 9th hour [3pm], Jesus shouted in a loud voice:  
  
 ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ (which translates as, ‘My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?’).  
  
35And when some of those standing there heard it, they said:  
  
 ‘Look! He’s calling for EliJah!’  
  
36So, someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine and held it up on a reed to give him something to drink. But the rest said:  
  
 ‘Leave him alone… Let’s see if EliJah comes to take him down.’  
  
37But then Jesus let out a loud groan and died.  
  
38Well at that, the curtain [that separated] the Most Holy ripped in two from the top to the bottom!  
  
39And when the centurion who was standing across from him saw all the things that happened when he died, he said:  
  
 ‘This man truly was God’s Son!’  
  
40Meanwhile, there were some women who had been watching from a distance. Among them was Mary of Magdala, Mary (the mother of Little James and Joses), Salome, 41and many others that had traveled with Jesus to JeruSalem and that used to serve him back in Galilee.  
  
  
42Well, since it was already late in the afternoon, and because it was Preparation (the day before the Sabbath), 43JoSeph of HariMathea (a well-known member of the Council who was also accepting God’s Kingdom) got up enough courage to go before Pilate and ask for the body of Jesus. 44However, Pilate didn’t know if he was dead yet, so he called the centurion to ask if he’d died. 45Then, after checking with the centurion, he released the body to JoSeph.  
  
46So JoSeph then went out and bought some fine linen. And after taking Jesus down, he wrapped him in the cloth and laid him in a tomb that had been cut into the bedrock, then he rolled up a stone over the tomb’s entrance.  
  
47Meanwhile, Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joses [just sat there] looking at the place where he’d been laid.