

## The Gospel of Matthew

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*“The Crucifixion of Jesus”* (pt 1)  
Matthew 27:27-44

### Matthew 27:27-44

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole *Roman* cohort around Him. They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on Him, and took the reed and *began* to beat Him on the head. After they had mocked Him, they took the *scarlet* robe off Him and put His *own* garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him. As they were coming out, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon, whom they pressed into service to bear His cross.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull, they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting *it*, He was unwilling to drink. And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots. And sitting down, they *began* to keep watch over Him there. And above His head they put up the charge against Him which read, “THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.” At that time two robbers \*were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. And those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads and saying, “You who *are going to* destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking *Him* and saying, “He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE *Him* now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.




## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### Elements of Roman crucifixion

- scourging with leather straps by Roman soldiers to severely weaken the body
- carrying the cross-beam to the place of execution in an act of public disgrace
- being tied or nailed to the cross-beam and fastened to the upright beam and left to hang until death



## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### A. Ironies of their mocking

1. The one they mocked as king is the King
  - Jesus' kingship is seen and achieved through His suffering and death



## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### A. Ironies of their mocking

2. The one they mocked as unable to save Himself was saving others

- it was by staying on the cross that the temple was destroyed and a new "temple" established
- He could not save Himself and save others



## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### A. Ironies of their mocking

3. The one they mocked as forsaken by God, trusted in God as His beloved Son

- He was on the cross *because* He submitted to and trusted in God
- on the cross He was forsaken by God...for us!



## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### B. Temptation of their mocking

➤ nature of the temptation

- He was tempted to use His "Sonship" on His own behalf to avoid suffering, shame and death
- He was tempted to doubt His Father's goodness and love for Him



## Crucifixion of Jesus

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### B. Temptation of their mocking

➤ Jesus' "response"

- He silently endured the mocking and temptation
- He kept entrusting Himself to His father who judges righteously
- He displayed His love for sinners by enduring the cross