

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 03 Mar..... Mark 01..... Calls
- 2) 10 Mar..... Mark 02..... Forgives
- 3) 17 Mar..... Mark 03-04..... Unites
- 4) 24 Mar..... Mark 05..... Restores
- 5) 31 Mar..... Mark 06..... Sends
- 6) 07 Apr..... Mark 07..... Includes
- 7) 14 Apr..... Mark 08-09..... Commands
- 8) **21 Apr..... Mark 15..... EASTER Message**
- 9) 28 Apr..... Mark 10..... Serves
- 10) 05 May..... Mark 11-12..... Purifies
- 11) 12 May..... Mark 13..... Promises
- 12) 19 May..... Mark 14..... Prepares
- 13) 26 May..... Mark 16..... Lives

**INTRODUCTION**

- **The Crucifixion.** A major crux of our faith is our Lord's crucifixion and Resurrection. Jesus was illegally tried, mocked, scourged and crucified by the ones who needed him the most.

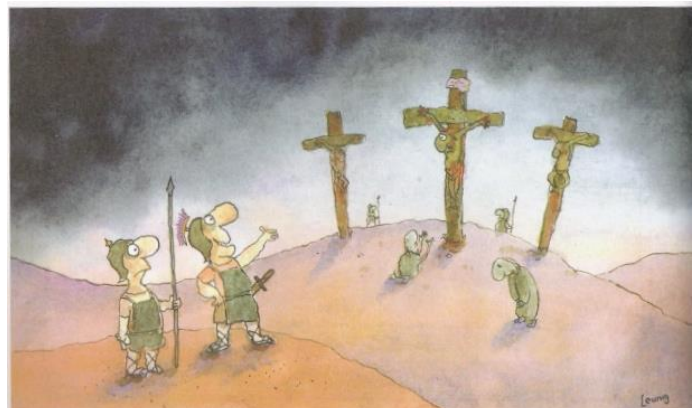
Passage	Comments
15:1-14	<p><b>Jesus Before Pilate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. The religious leaders' conspiracy against Christ culminated in a final board meeting.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Jesus had many trusted friends. He appeared to 500 of them soon after His Resurrection (1Cor 15:6). He touched, fed, and healed thousands, possibly more than 10,000. Where were they now?</li> <li>♦ <b>Consider This.</b> The religious leaders took steps to avoid the crowds (Mk 14:1-2) who could have swung things differently, and to manipulate those who remained (Mat 27:20). They were devious.                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who hasn't seen a Pastor be voted out when a group of unscrupulous deacons or church members abided their time till certain faithful stewards would be away from the church.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv3-5. Jesus was silent as a lamb going to slaughter (Isaiah 53:7). Should we follow suit if we are ever judged for our faith, or should we be like Paul and appeal to Caesar (Acts 25:11), or should we be like the Apostles who were commanded to wait for the Holy Spirit to give them the right words to say (Mark 13:11)?</li> </ul>
15:15-39	<p><b>Jesus is Scourged and Mocked</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilate bowed to political expediency.</li> <li>• v19. Roman soldiers continued spitting &amp; hitting Him</li> <li>• v29. Those passing by hurled abuse at Him</li> <li>• v31. The chief priests mocked Him</li> <li>• v32. Even the 2 thieves insulted Him                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Luke records that while on the Cross Christ said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing"..... Luke 23:24</li> <li>♦ Surely, God answered His Son's prayer and forgave all those who took part in the Crucifixion? Does this mean they ALL went to Heaven?</li> <li>♦ <b>Note.</b> This forgiveness did not grant salvation to the Lord's tormentors, but in all probability these tormentors would not be judged eternally for this particular and horrific crime – Though they would be eternally judged for all their other trespasses</li> <li>♦ If these tormentors were not forgiven, they would have received many more stripes throughout eternity for the crime of tormenting and murdering the Holy Son of God along with all their other sins?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v21. Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus (this passage prompted the song 'Watch the Lamb')</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
	<p><b>Jesus is Crucified</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v25. It was the 3<sup>rd</sup> hour (9 AM) when they put Him on the Cross</li> <li>• v33. There was darkness from Noon to 3 PM</li> <li>• v34. Jesus expired the 9<sup>th</sup> hour (3PM)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Consider this:</b> Every afternoon at 3 PM, a temple priest blew a <b>shofar</b>. All Jews stood in silence at that sound, cause another priest cut the throat of the sacrificial lamb – the same time that Christ expired</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v38. Veil torn in two. Was this Natural or Supernatural?</li> <li>• v32. <b>Let's back up a bit.</b> Mark mentions that those crucified with Him also insulted Him, but Mark did not mention the Lord forgiving one of the thieves hanging beside Him as Luke did..... Luke 23:39-43                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Remember. Mark was more focused on Jesus' deity while Luke highlighted more of His compassion</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
15:40-41	<p><b>The Women</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where would churches be today without faithful women tending to so many needs and ministries</li> <li>• v40. 3 are mentioned by name (Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the Less and Joses, and Salome the wife of Zebedee, the mother of James &amp; John</li> <li>• v41. "...many other women" possibly includes Joanna wife of Chuza, Herod's steward; Mary the mother of Jesus, Martha, and Susanna</li> <li>• Not only did many contributed financially to support Jesus and at least His 12 Apostles, but they were bold and brave enough to tend to His body for burial; and several would be honored to be the first to hear of His resurrection (Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Salome, Mary the wife of Cleophas/Alpheus, and others)</li> </ul>
15:42-47	<p><b>Jesus is Buried</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v43. Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the (Sanhedrin) Council – "took courage" and boldly asked for the body of Christ. This was not an easy task.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ How much trouble are we willing to go through for our faith. Would we risk a job loss?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- Let's be like Joseph of Arimathea & be bold and stand up for Christ
  - ♦ Be bold in your witness – do it, not just think about it.
- ...and let's be like the faithful women of Jesus' day
  - ♦ Be supportive of godly ministries – financially and physically

**NEXT WEEK: Mark 10.** Jesus teaches about divorce and remarriage and a sundry of other topics before healing blind Bartimaeus.



"Brilliant! You kill the leader and you kill the whole movement"