

Overview of the Crucifixion

- The Gethsemane Struggle
- The Divine Agony
- The Midnight Arrest
- The Preliminary Hearings
- Jesus Before the Sanhedrin
- Jesus Before Pilate
- Jesus Acquitted by Pilate
- Jesus Before King Herod
- Christ or Barabbas?
- The Crucifixion
- Sufferings of Jesus on the Cross

Memory Verses

The Son of Man must be handed over to sinful people. He must be nailed to a cross. On the third day he will rise from the dead.

Luke 24:7 NIRV

Christ in Gethsemane

Luke 22:39-44 • John 17



THE RETREAT OF THE MASTER

Judas knew the place

John 18:2

THE REGULARITY OF HIS VISITS

“As he was wont”

Luke 22:39

THE REASON FOR HIS VISIT

He offered up prayers

Hebrews 5:7

THE REVERENCE OF HIS ATTITUDE

He knelt down and prayed

Luke 22:42

THE RESIGNATION OF HIS SPIRIT

“Not my will, but thine”

Luke 22:42

THE REWARD OF HIS PRAYER

an Angel strengthened Him

Luke 22:43

THE RIGOR OF HIS SUFERINGS

Sweat drops of blood

Luke 22:42

The Jewish Set of Trials

Matthew 26:57 - 27:10 • Mark 14:53 - 15:1 • Luke 22:54-71 • John 18:12-27



But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!

(Matthew 26:63)



1. **THE HOUSE OF ANNAS** - John 18:12-24

- Peter's first denial
- Jesus slapped by one of the officers
- Taken to the house of Caiphas

2. **HOUSE OF CAIPHAS** - Matthew 26:57-68

- False witnesses were brought
- One charge was made - Jesus was charged with blasphemy
- Caiphas rent (tore) his clothes
- They spat upon Christ and hit him with their hands
- Peter denied the Lord the second time and the third time
- Jesus was taken to the Sanhedrin

3. **THE SANHEDRIN** - Luke 22:66-71

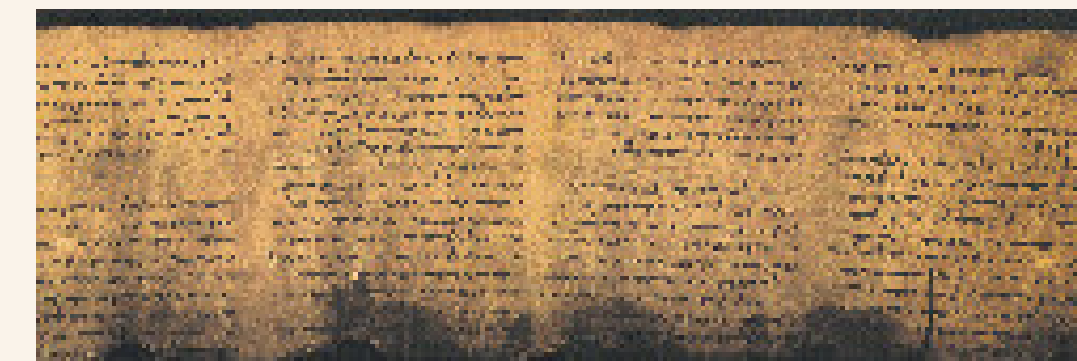
- Two Charges were made against Jesus:
 - Blasphemy
 - Treason
- Jesus was taken to Pilate

Three Hebrew Tribunals

HEBREW TRIBUNLS WERE THREE IN KIND:

1. THE GREAT SANHEDRIN

- a. The Grand Council
- b. It sat in Jerusalem
- c. The high court of justice and the supreme tribunal of the Jews
- d. It numbered seventyone members
- e. Its powers were:
 - a. Legislative
 - b. Executive
 - c. Judicial



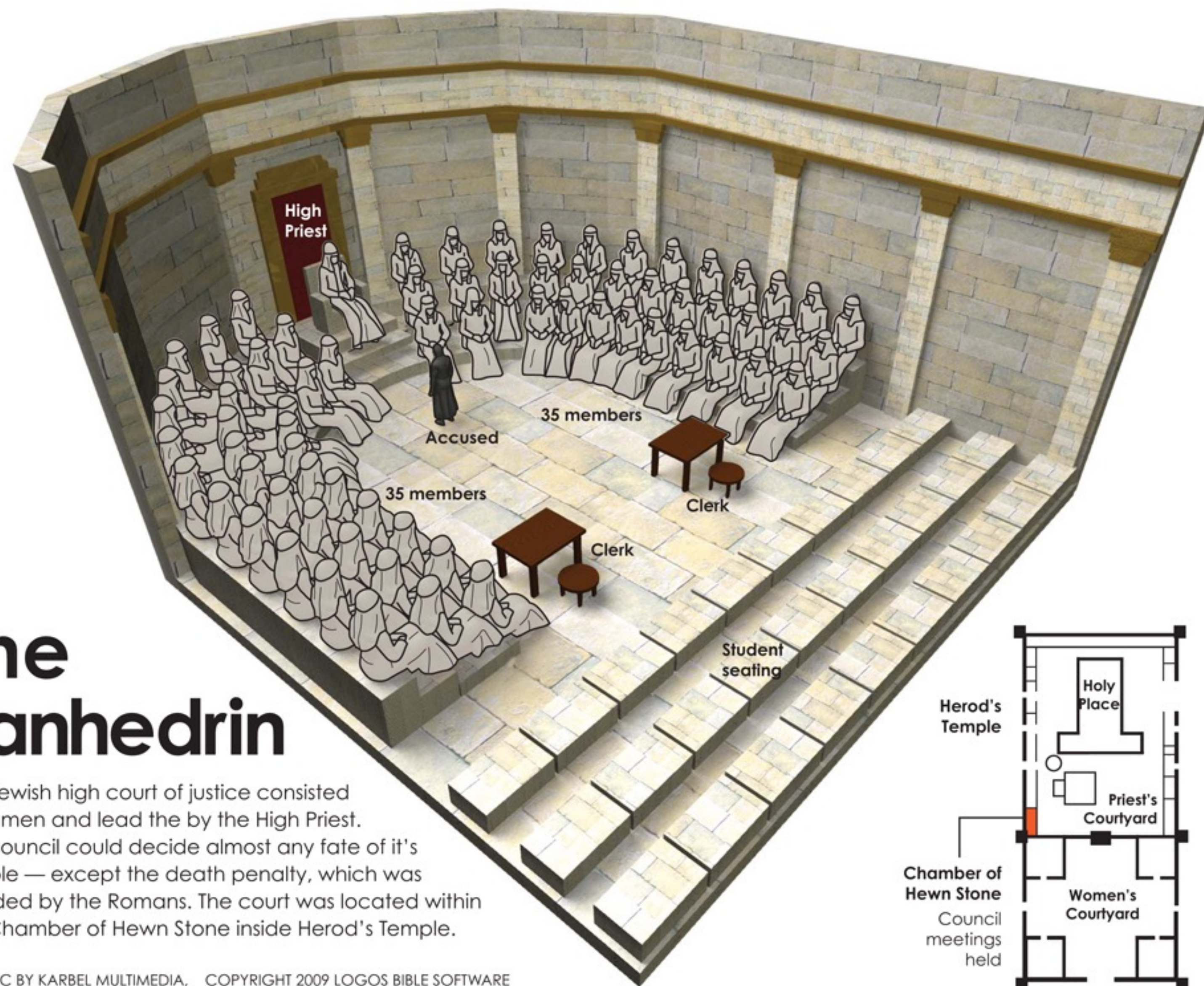
2. THE MINOR SANHEDRIN

3. THE LOWER TRIBUNAL (The Court of Three)

The Sanhedrin

The Jewish high court of justice consisted of 71 men and led by the High Priest. The council could decide almost any fate of its people — except the death penalty, which was decided by the Romans. The court was located within the Chamber of Hewn Stone inside Herod's Temple.

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The Sanhedrin - Part 1

NAME

“Sanhedrin” is derived from a Greek word that denotes a legislative assembly or an ecclesiastical council deliberating in a sitting posture.

ORIGIN

Established in Jerusalem between 170 and 106 B.C.

ORGANIZATION

The seventy-one members were divided into three chambers:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. The chamber of priests | • Represented the religious or sacerdotal |
| | • Twenty-three members |
| 2. The chamber of scribes | • Represented the literary or legal |
| | • Twenty-three members |
| 3. The chamber of elders | • Represented popular element of the Hebrew population |
| | • Twenty-three members |

NUMBER – 23 members from each of three chambers (69) plus 2 presiding officers, brought the total number to 71.



The Sanhedrin - Part 2

OFFICERS OF THE GREAT SANHEDRIN

Two presiding officers

1. “Prince” – The chief and president of the court.
2. “Father of the tribunal” – The vice-president



QUORUM

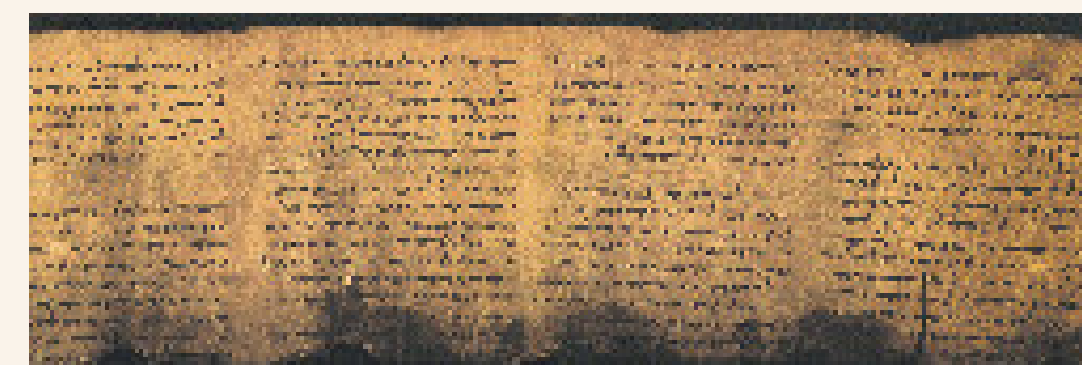
23 members constituted a quorum

CRIMINAL TRIALS

1. A majority of one vote was sufficient for an acquittal
2. A majority of two votes was necessary for condemnation

AUTHORITY

The Great Sanhedrin possessed all the powers and attributes of a national parliament and a supreme court. It paralleled the Areopagus in Athens and the senate in Rome.



The Roman Set of Trials

Matthew 27:1-18 • Mark 15:1-23 • Luke 23:1-25 • John 18:28 - 19:16



“And Herod with his men of war set him (Jesus) atnought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.”

(Luke 23:11)

1. PILATE - Luke 23:1-7

- Three charges were made against Jesus
 1. He perverts the nation
 2. He forbids people to give tribute to Caesar
 3. He claims to be a king

2. HEROD ANTIPAS - Luke 23:8-12

- Jesus was mocked and made fun of
- Jesus was sent back to Pilate

3. PILATE - Luke 22:66-71

- Offered to release Jesus or Barabbas
- Jesus was scourged
- Pilate's wife warned him of her dream
- Mob called for crucifixion
- Pilate washed his hands of the affair
- Told Jews to do as they pleased
- Jesus is taken away to be crucified

From the Trials - Basic Issues that All Must Face



TRADITION vs. TRUTH

Jews vs. Christ

POPULARITY vs. RIGHT

Mob vs. Christ

CONSCIENCE vs. CAESAR

Pilate vs. Christ



SELF vs. CHRIST

Judas vs. Christ

Five Questions Asked By Pilate



“... I, having examined him before you,
have found no fault in this man touching
those things whereof you accuse him.”

Luke 23:14

#1

← “ART YOU THE KING OF THE JEWS?”

John 18:33

#2

← “WHAT IS TRUTH?”

John 18:38

#3

← “WHOM SHALL I RELEASE . . . BARAABBAS
OR CHRIST?”

Matthew 27:17

#4

← “WHAT SHALL I DO WITH JESUS WHICH IS
CALLED CHRIST?”

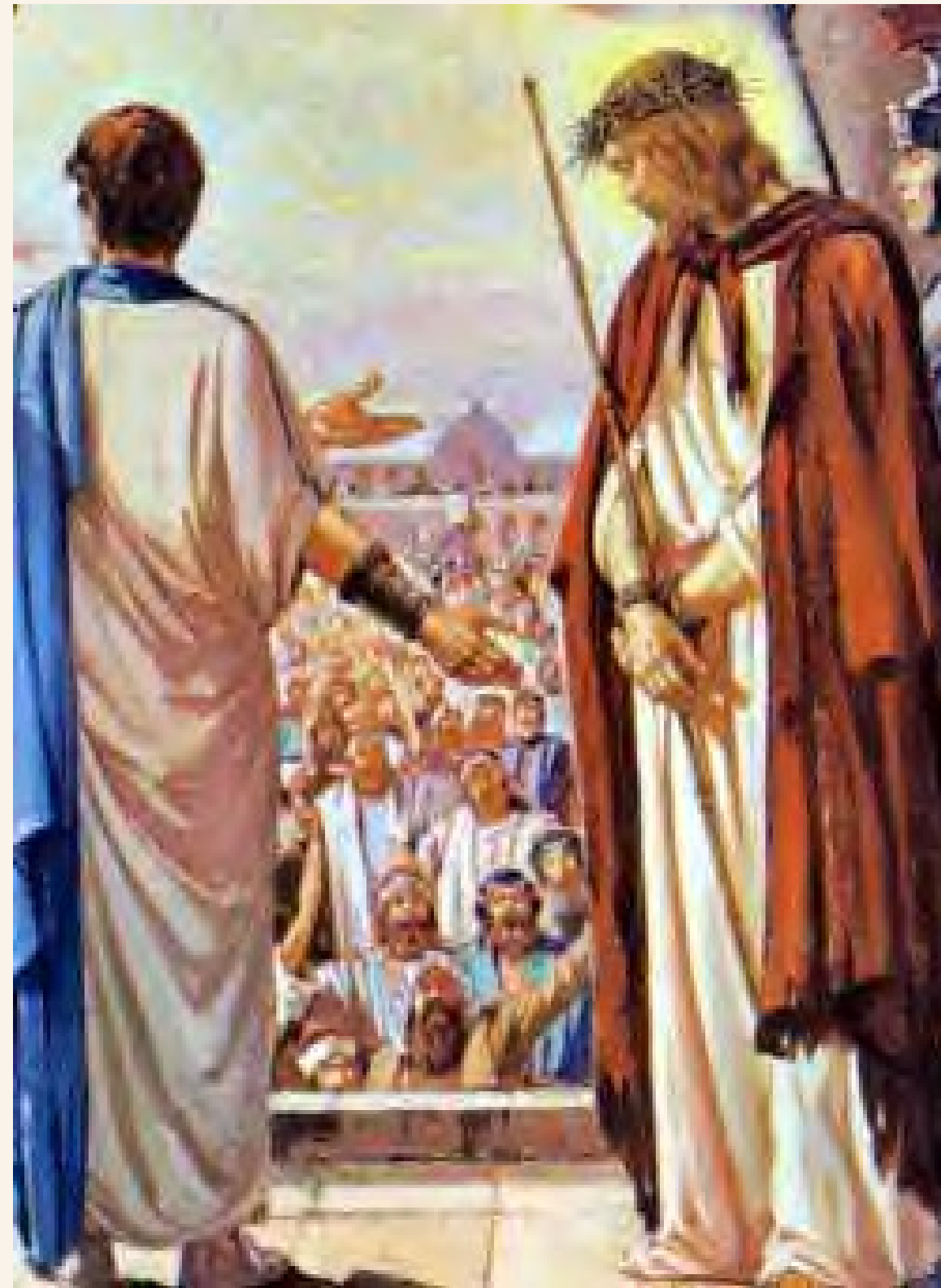
Matthew 27:22

#5

← “WHY, WHAT EVIL HAS HE DONE?”

Matthew 27:23

Five Statements Made By Pilate



“... I, having examined him before you,
have found no fault in this man touching
those things whereof you accuse him.”

Luke 23:14

#1



“I FIND NO FAULT IN HIM”

John 19:4

#2



“BEHOLD THE MAN!”

John 19:5

#3



**“I AM INNOCENT OF THE BLOOD OF THIS
JUST PERSON”**

Matthew 27:24

#4



“WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN, I HAVE WRITTEN”

John 19:22

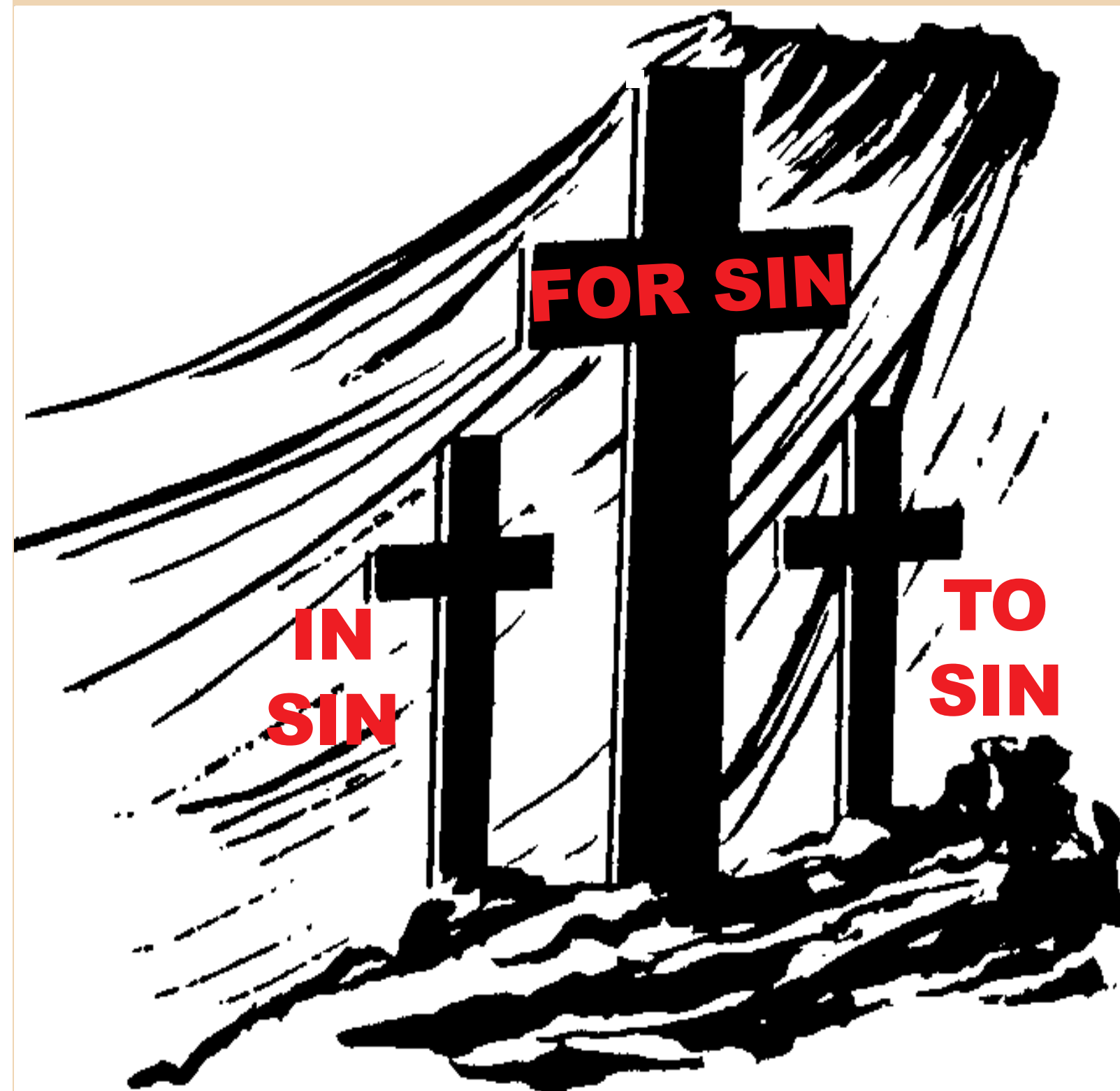
#5



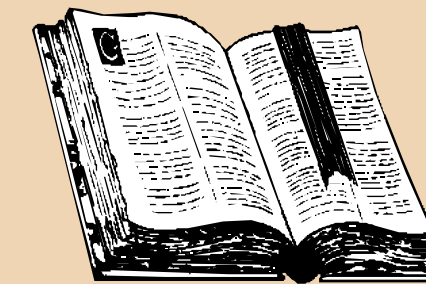
**“GO YOUR WAY, MAKE IT AS SURE
AS YOU CAN”**

Matthew 27:65

The Three Persons on the Three Crosses



“Then were two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.”



Matthew 27:38

He who hung
on the cross
at the left died

IN sin

He who hung on
the cross in the
center died

FOR sin

He who hung
on the cross on
the right died

TO sin

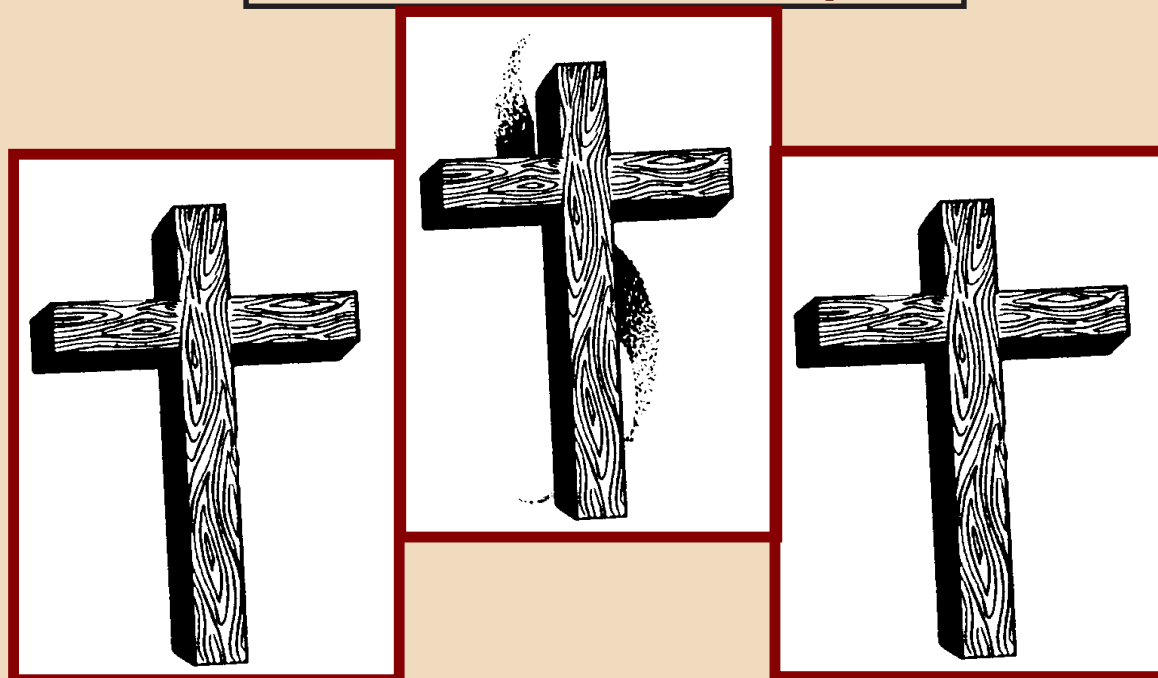
A Look at the Three Crosses



“Then were two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.” Matthew 27:38

IN THE CENTER

The Cross of Redemption

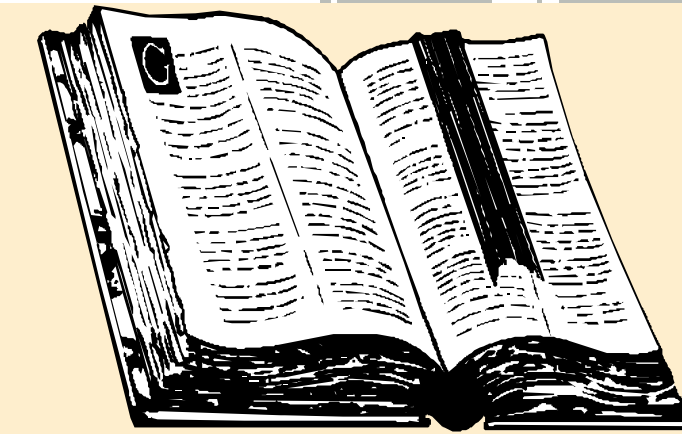


ON THE LEFT
The Cross of Rejection

ON THE RIGHT
The Cross of Repentance

THE CROSS OF REJECTION

- Did not humble himself
- Scoffed at Jesus
- Thought selfishly



THE CROSS OF REPENTANCE AND RECEPTION

- Rebuked the other thief
- Defended the innocence of Jesus
- Asked for Jesus to remember him
- The evidence of genuine repentance:
 - Expresses his reverence in the presence of Deity – “Do you not fear God?”
 - Readily admitted his own guilt – “We are due the rewards of our deeds.”
 - Recognized that Jesus was suffering wrongly – “This man has done nothing wrong.”
 - Confessed Jesus openly - Called Him “Lord.”
 - Showed humility in his request – “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”

THE TWO THIEVES CONTRASTED

- The 1st saw Jesus as a man – The 2nd saw Him as Lord
- The 1st saw Jesus as a mock king – The 2nd saw Him as the “King of Kings” with a coming kingdom
- The 1st saw Jesus as a sinner – The 2nd saw Him as a true Savior

Which cross is yours, the cross of REPENTANCE or the cross of REJECTION?

“And Pilate Wrote a Title”



“And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.

This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin.

Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that He said, I am King of the Jews.

Pilate answered, What I have written I have written.”

John 19:19-22

{ Written in **HEBREW** - So every JEW could read it.

{ Written in **GREEK** - So every COMMON MAN could read it.

{ Written in **LATIN** - So every ROMAN could read it.

Sevenfold Virtue of the Blood

For the SLAVE
**IT PROCURES
REDEMPTION**
Ephesians 1:6

For the ACCUSED
**IT BRINGS
VICTORY**
Revelation 2:11

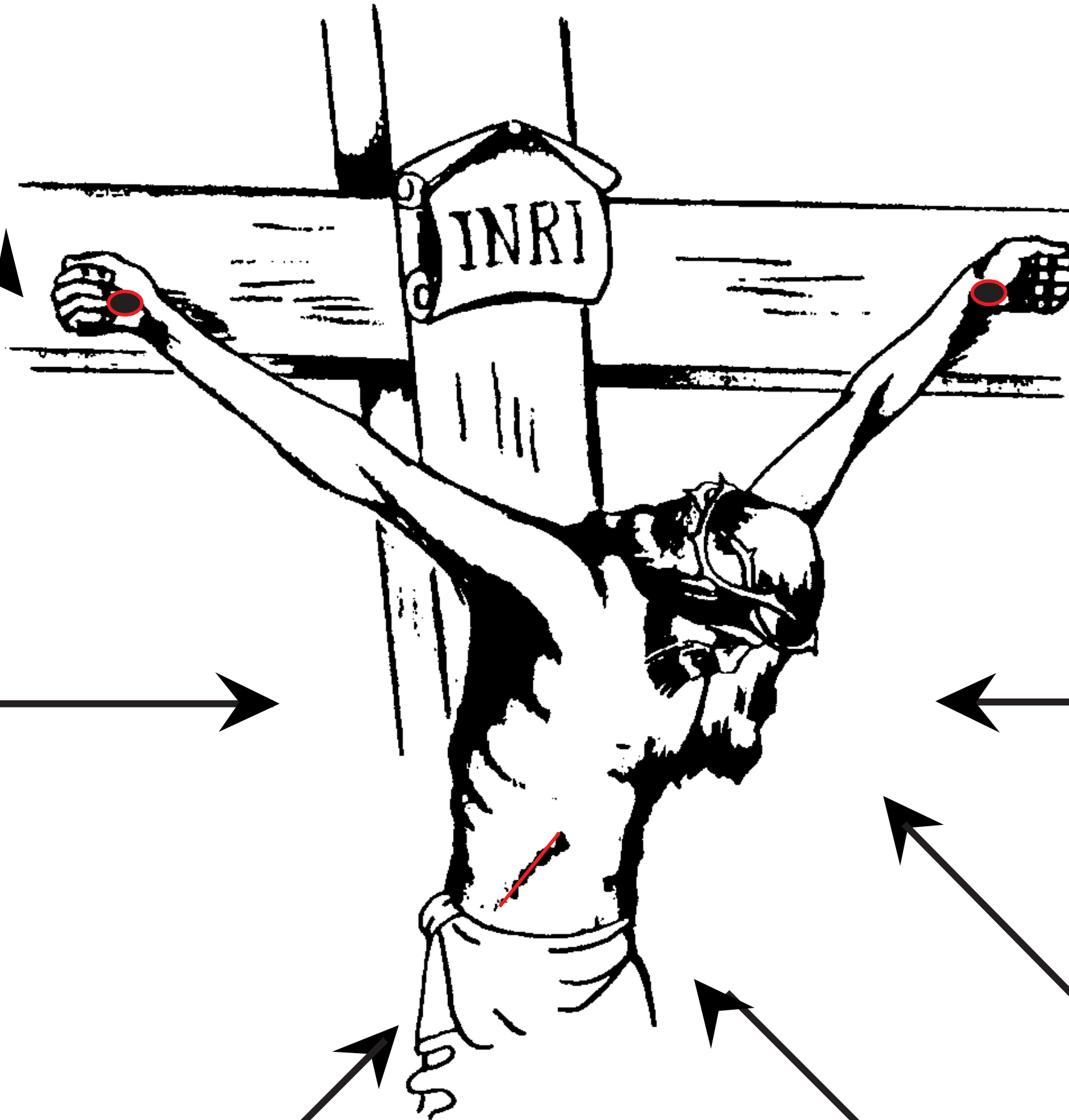
For the GULTY
**IT SECURES
JUSTIFICATION**
Ephesians 1:6

For the ALIEN
**IT GIVES
NEARNESS**
Ephesians 2:13

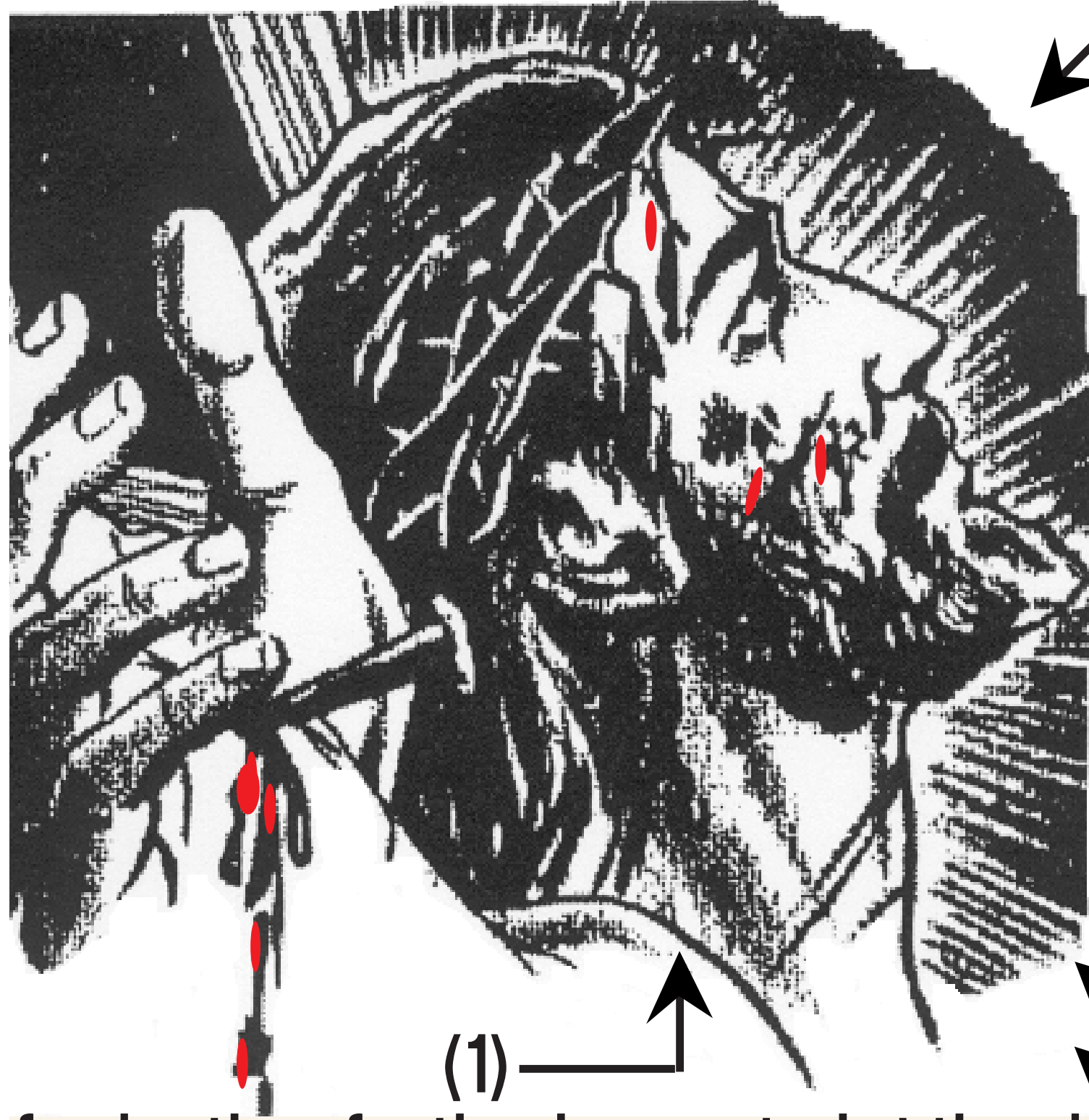
For the UNCLEAN
**IT INSURES
CLEANSING**
1 John 1:7

For the TROUBLED
**IT ASSURES
PEACE**
Colossians 1:20

For the UNHOLY
**IT EFFECTS
SANCTIFICATION**
Hebrews 12:12



Seven Sayings from the Cross



(1) —
“forgive them for they know not what they do.”
The utterance of **FORGIVENESS**
Luke 23:34

(2) —
“I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.”
The utterance of **SALVATION**
Luke 23:43

(7) —
“Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.”
The utterance of **TRUST & REUNION**
Luke 23:46

(6) —
“It is finished.”
The utterance of **TRIUMPH**
John 19:30

(5) —
“I thirst.”
The utterance of **PHYSICAL SUFFERING**
John 19:28

(4) —
“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”
The utterance of **ANGUISH**
Matthew 27:46

(3) —
“Woman, behold thy son! . . . Behold thy mother.”
The utterance of **HUMAN CARE**
John 19:27

Things Said at the Cross

THE SIGN

"The King of the Jews"
(Mark 15:26)

THE PASSERSBY

"You who destroy the temple and build it
in three days, save Yourself, and come
down from the cross."
(Mark 15:29)



CHIEF PRIESTS

"He saved others; Himself He cannot
save. Let Christ, the King of Israel
descend now from the cross, that we
may see and believe."
(Mark 15:31-32)



ONE OF THE THIEVES

"If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."
(Luke 23:39)

CENTURION

"Truly this man was the Son of God."
(Mark 15:39)



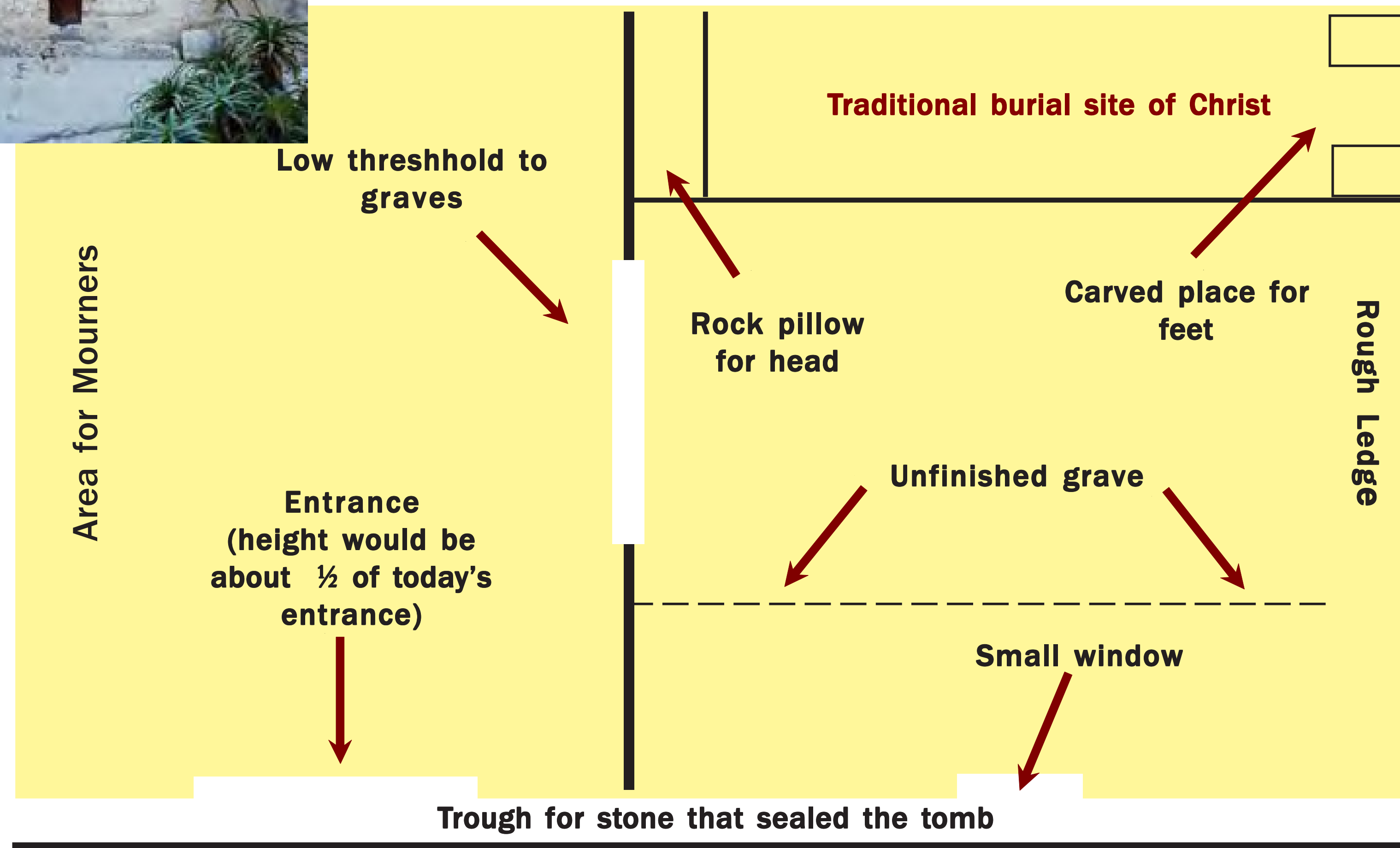
THE OTHER THIEF

"Lord, remember me when You
come into Your kingdom."
(Luke 23:42)



The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem

**A 1st century tomb located in the garden area of
Gordon's Calvary in Jerusalem**



Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

John 19:41-42

NOTE: The small window was not there during the 1st century. It is located in an area that was damaged during excavation

The Resurrection of Christ

THE DECLARATION OF HIS SONSHIP

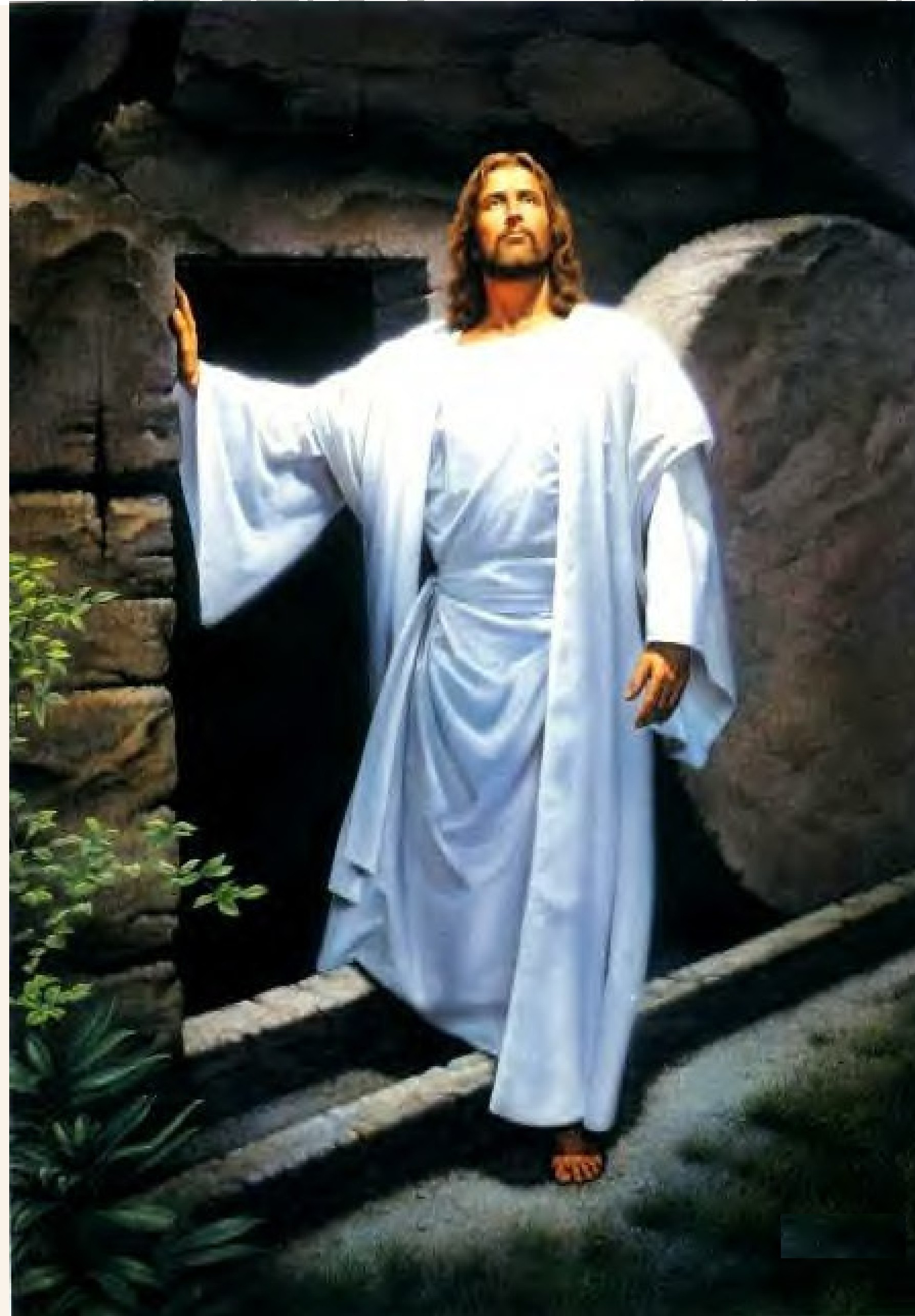
- Romans 1:2

THE SEAL OF GOD'S ACCEPTANCE

- Hebrews 13:20

THE WITNESS OF HIS TRIUMPH

- Acts 2:24



THE PLEDGE OF OUR RESURRECTION

- 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

THE CAUSE OF OUR JUSTIFICATION

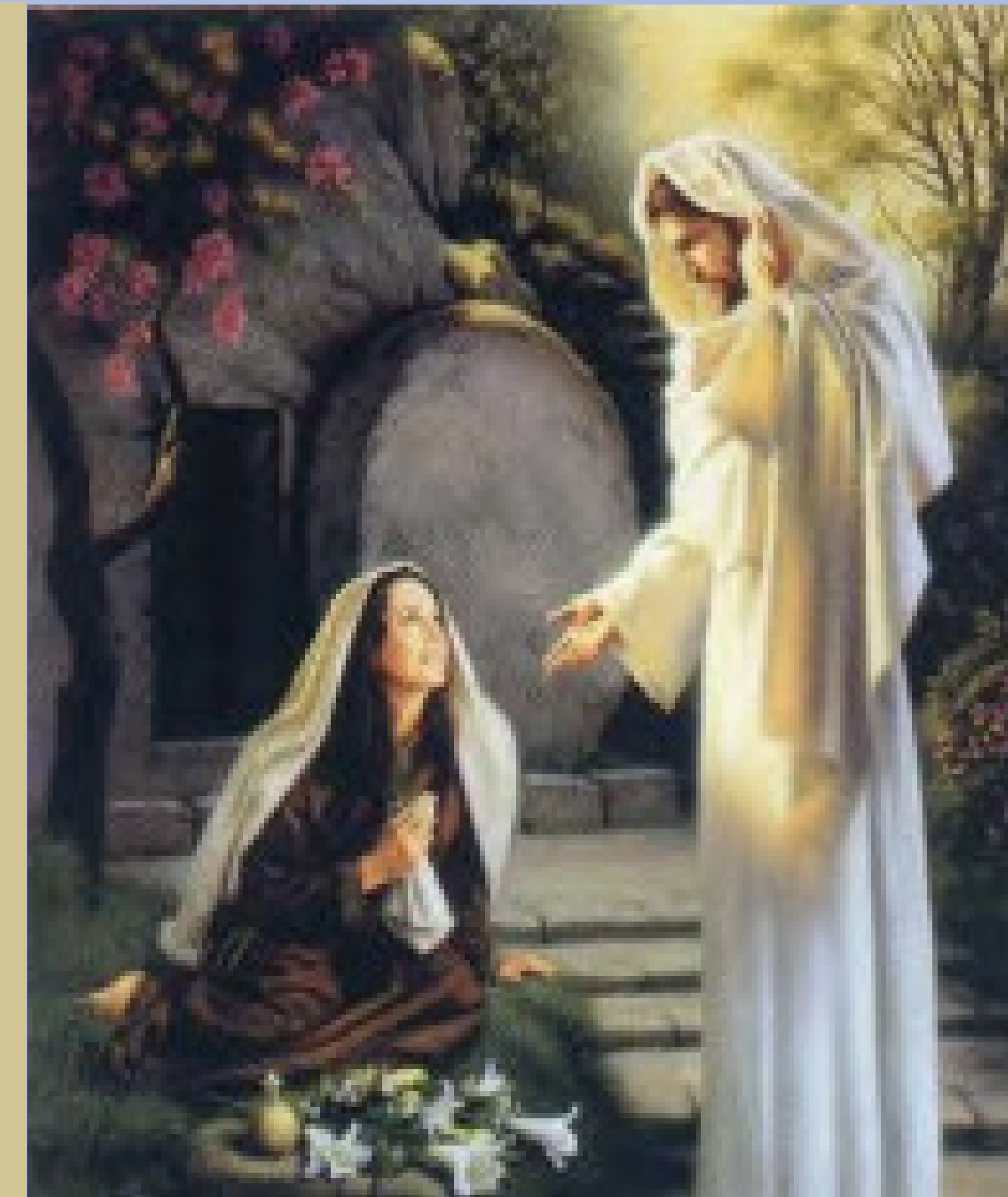
- Romans 4:25

THE PRELUDE OF COMING JUDGMENT

- Acts 17:31

Post-Resurrection Appearances

➤ TO MARY MAGDALENE	• John 20:11-12
➤ TO CERTAIN WOMEN AS THEY RETURNED TO THE SELPUCHRE	• Matthew 28:1-10
➤ TO PETER	• Luke 24:34
➤ TO TWO DISCIPLES ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS	• Luke 24:13-15
➤ TO 10 APOSTLES (THOMAS BEING ABSENT)	• John 20:19-23
➤ TO ALL 11 APOSTLES ONE WEEK LATER (INCLUDING THOMAS)	• John 20:26-28
➤ TO SEVERAL DISCIPLES AT THE SEA OF GALILEE	• John 21:1-23
➤ TO THE APOSTLES AND ABOUT 500 BRETHREN AT ONCE ON AN APPOINTED MOUNTAIN IN GALILEE	• Matt. 28:16-20
➤ TO JAMES	• 1 Cor. 15:7
➤ TO THE APOSTLES AT JERUSALEM IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE ASCENSION	• Acts 1:3-9
➤ TO SAUL OF TARSUS	• Acts 22:3-5 • Acts 9:1-2



1 Corinthians 15:5-8



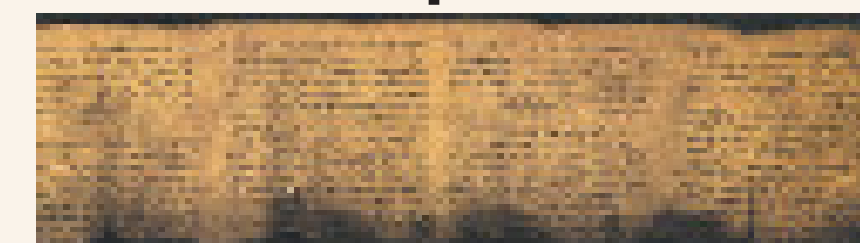
Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 1

1. THE ARREST OF JESUS WAS ILLEGAL.

- a. Hebrew law prohibited an arrest for a capital offense (one that could result in death) taking place at night.
- b. The arrest was effected through the agency of a traitor and informer, a violation of Hebrew law.
- c. The arrest was not a result of a legal mandate from a court whose intentions were to conduct a legal trial for the purpose of reaching a fair and righteous judgment.

2. THE PRIVATE EXAMINATION OF JESUS BEFORE ANNAS AND CAIPHAS WAS ILLEGAL.

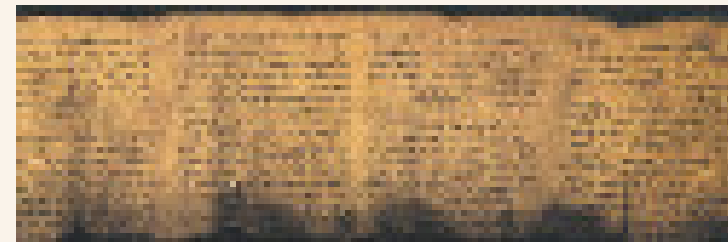
- a. Hebrew law prohibited legal examination at night.
- b. No judge or magistrate, sitting alone, could interrogate an accused person or sit in judgment upon his legal rights.
- c. Private preliminary examinations of accused persons were to be prevented.



Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 2

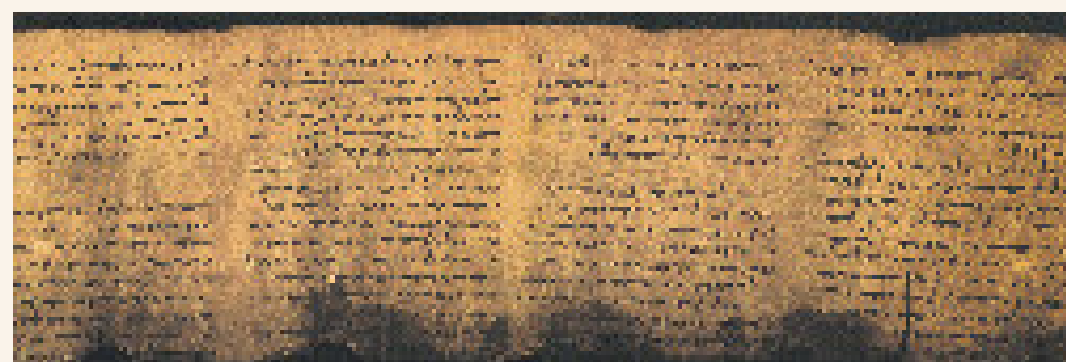
2. THE INDICTMENT AGAINST JESUS WAS, IN FORM, ILLEGAL.

- a. The accusation (indictment) at the trial was both vague and indefinite.
- b. The accusation was made, in part, by Caiphas, the high priest, who was one of the judges of Jesus. Hebrew law allowed none but the leading witnesses to present the charge.



3. THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SANHEDRIN AGAINST JESUS WERE ILLEGAL IN THAT THEY WERE CONDUCTED AT NIGHT.

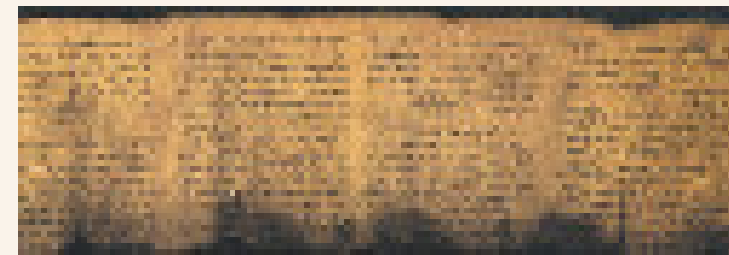
- a. Hebrew jurisprudence strictly forbade the trial of a capital offense case at night.
- b. A court had no jurisdiction if it convened and acted at a time forbidden by law.



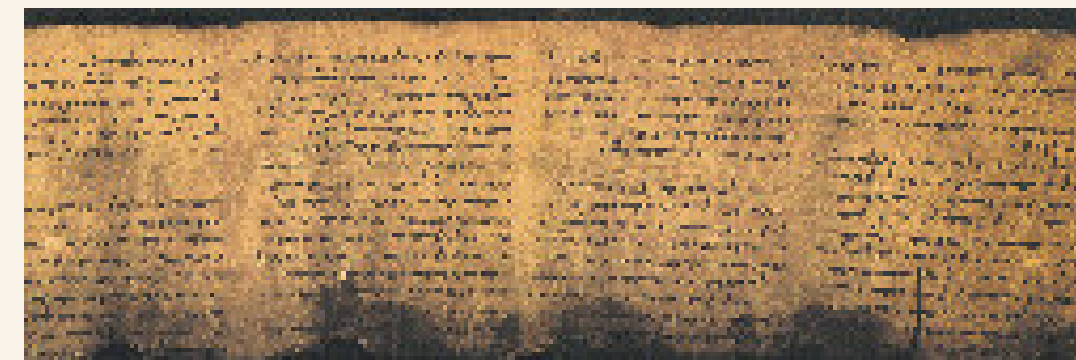
Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 3

5. THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SANHEDRIN AGAINST JESUS WERE ILLEGAL BECAUSE THE COURT CONVENED BEFORE THE OFFERING OF THE MORNING SACRIFICE.

- a. No session of the court could take place before the offering of the morning sacrifice which was offered between dawn and sunrise.
- b. The Sanhedrin sat from the close of the morning sacrifice to the time of the evening sacrifice.



6. THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST JESUS WERE ILLEGAL IN THAT THEY WERE CONDUCTED ON THE DAY PRECEDING THE JEWISH SABBATH, AND ALSO ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD AND THE EVE OF THE PASSOVER.

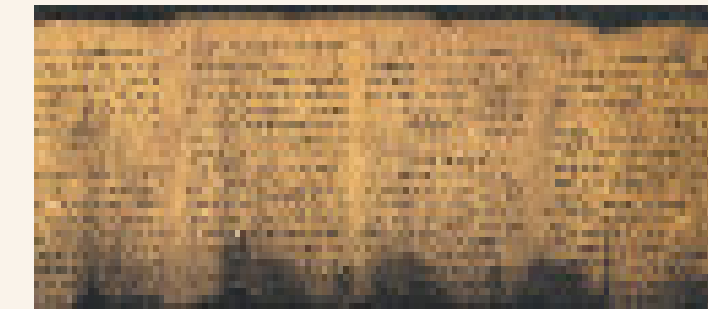


Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 4

7. THE TRIAL OF JESUS WAS ILLEGAL IN THAT IT WAS CONCLUDED WITHIN ONE DAY.

- a. A trial that could result in the accused's death had to last at least two days so as to be careful and deliberate.
- b. After a review on the second day, a final decree could be handed down in the afternoon.

8. THE SENTENCE OF CONDEMNATION PRONOUNCED AGAINST JESUS BY THE SANHEDRIN ILLEGAL BECAUSE IT WAS FOUNDED UPON HIS UNCORROBORATED CONFESSION.



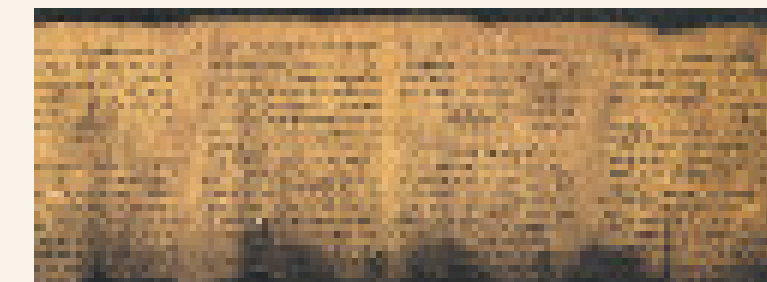
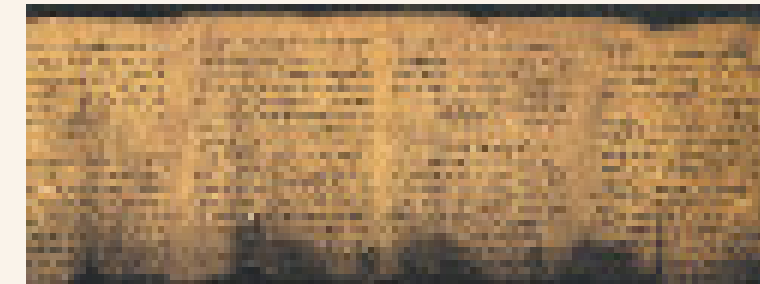
9. THE CONDEMNATION OF JESUS WAS ILLEGAL IN THAT THE VERDICT OF THE SANHEDRIN WAS UNANIMOUS.

- a. A unanimous verdict of guilty rendered on the day of the trial would have the effect of an acquittal.
- b. If there was an unanimous verdict of guilty and no defender of the accused in the court, the verdict of guilty was invalid and the sentence of death could not be carried out.

Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 5

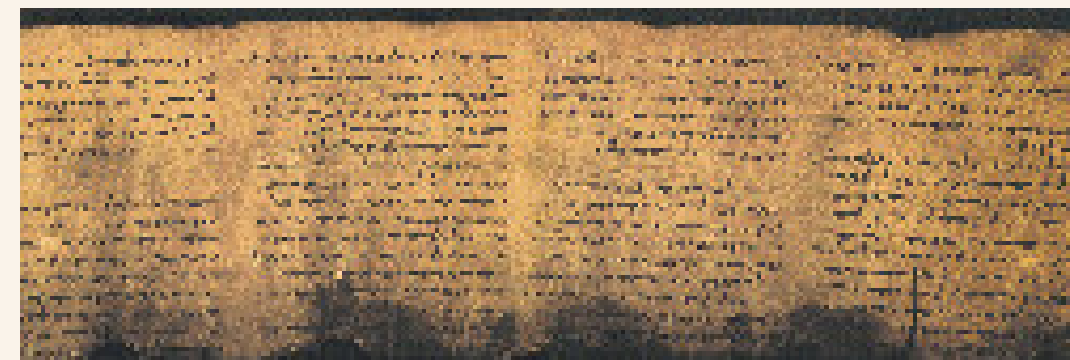
10. **THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST JESUS WERE ILLEGAL IN THAT:**

- The sentence of condemnation was pronounced in a place forbidden by law.
- The high priest rent his clothes, thus prejudicing others.
- The balloting was irregular.
 - a. In any trials involving capital cases, the Sanhedrin was required to meet in an apartment of the national temple at Jerusalem known as the Hall of Hewn Stones. Outside of this hall no capital trial could be conducted and no capital sentence could be pronounced.
 - b. Leviticus 21:10 – “ And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes.”
 - c. The balloting did not allow for the proper order (from the youngest member to the eldest, so as not to allow the older members to prejudice the younger members) and the proper recording of the votes by two to three scribes.



Illegalities that Surrounded Christ - Part 6

- 11. THE CONDEMNATION OF JESUS WAS ILLEGAL BECAUSE THE MERITS OF THE DEFENSE WERE NOT CONSIDERED.**
- a. Jesus was “railroaded” into a conviction and condemnation to die.
 - b. Deuteronomy 13:14 – “Then shalt thou inquire, and make search, and ask diligently; and, behold, if it be truth, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought among you.”
 - c. The standard of thoroughness in investigating a matter was set aside in Jesus’ case.
 - d. The judges failed to weigh the whole matter in the sincerity of their conscience.
 - e. The lord’s defense was set aside in that witnesses were not presented on His behalf.
 - f. Jesus was condemned for his claim to be the Christ, but was not allowed to offer proof of His confession.



Punishment for Capital Crimes - Part 1

- **Thirty-six capital crimes are mentioned by the Pentateuch and the Talmud.**

BEHEADING was the punishment for:

1. Murder
2. Communal apostasy from Judaism to idolatry

STRANGLING was the punishment for:

1. Adultery
2. Kidnapping
3. False prophecy
4. Bruising a parent
5. Prophesying in the name of heathen deities
6. Maladministration (the “Rebellion Elder”)



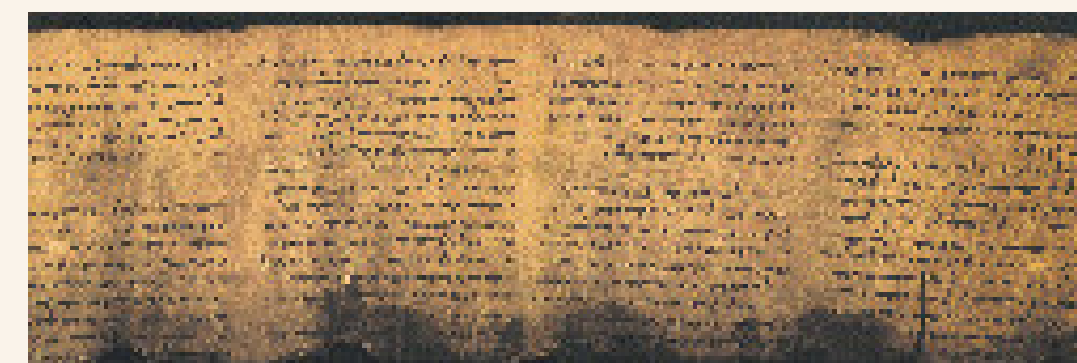
Punishment for Capital Crimes - Part 2

Hebrew Criminal Law

- Thirty-six capital crimes are mentioned by the Pentateuch and the Talmud.

BURNING was the death punishment for ten forms of incest – criminal commerce

1. With one's own daughter
2. With one's own son's daughter
3. With one's own daughter's daughter
4. With one's own stepdaughter
5. With one's own stepson's daughter
6. With one's own stepdaughter's daughter
7. With one's own mother-in-law
8. With one's own mother-in-law's mother
9. With one's own father-in-law's mother
10. With a priest's daughter

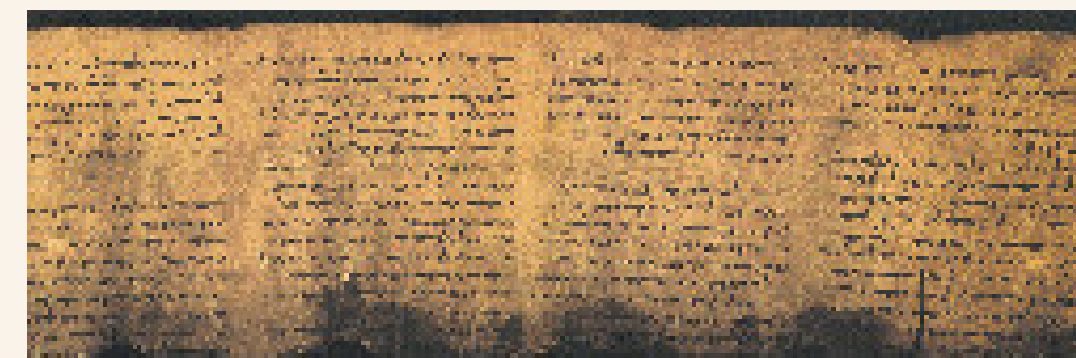


Punishment for Capital Crimes - Part 3

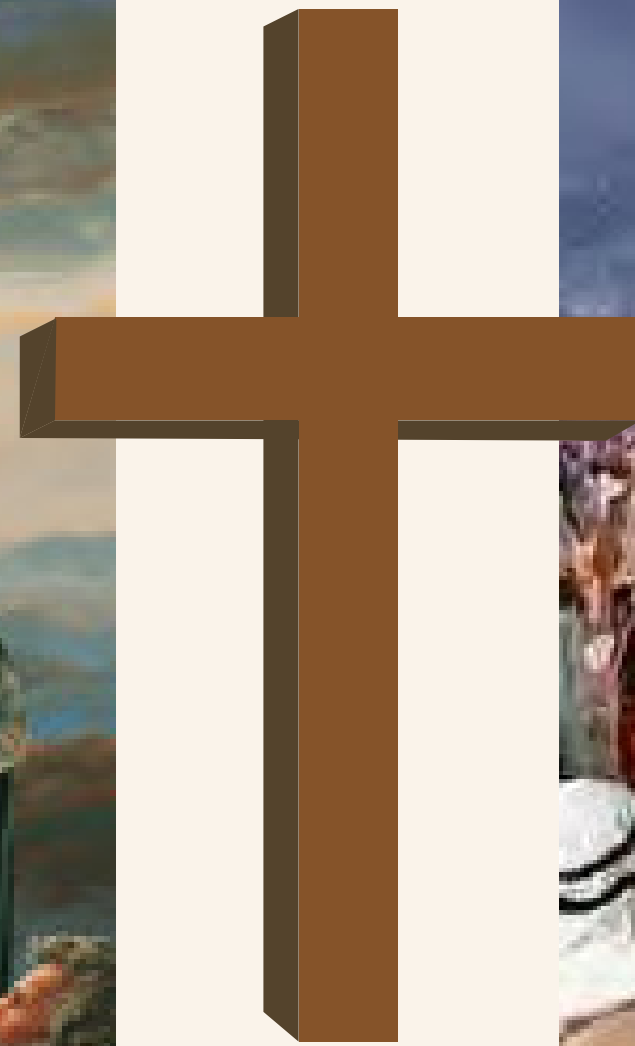
➤ **Thirty-six capital crimes are mentioned by the Pentateuch and the Talmud.**

STONING was the punishment for:

1. Magic
2. Idolatry
3. Blasphemy
4. Pythonism
5. Pederasty
6. Necromancy
7. Cursing a parent
8. Violating the Sabbath
9. Bestiality practiced by a man
10. Bestiality, practiced by a woman
11. Sacrificing one's own children to Moloch
12. Instigating individuals to embrace idolatry
13. Instigating communities to embrace idolatry
14. Criminal conversation with one's own mother
15. Criminal conversation with a betrothed virgin
16. Criminal conversation with one's own stepmother
17. Criminal conversation with one's own daughter-in-law
18. Violation of the filial duty



The Lifting Up of Christ



And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up. John 3:14

Christ's Invitation in Matthew 11:28-30



Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I
am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest
for your souls.

For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."