

Brother Austin Fearn

"Barabbas and You"

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**Introduction:**

Today we are going to talk about Barabbas. It is interesting to note that he is mentioned in each of the four gospels and Acts. His beginning is not written, nor is his end recorded. He is a side character. However, he is an excellent picture of . . . you (and me). We will look at each of the gospel accounts of Barabbas because each gospel writer writes something unique about him. May God help us see ourselves in his brief encounter with Jesus Christ.

Texts: Matthew 27:16–26; Mark 15:6–15; Luke 23:17–25; John 18:38–40**⇒ Barabbas Was Common**

- Barabbas was not the only one in prison on this day – Mark 15
- His crimes are not unheard of, especially today – Luke 23, John 18
 - Insurrection – A rising against civil or political authority
 - Sedition – “A factious commotion of the people, a tumultuous assembly of men rising in opposition to law or the administration of justice, and in distance of the public peace.” Probably a local or limited insurrection.
 - Murder – 6th commandment
 - Robbery – 8th and 10th commandments
- This is man’s law, God’s law? – James 2:10; Matthew 22:37–40

⇒ **Barabbas Was Condemned**

- We don't know if his "trial" had taken place or not from the Bible.
- Pilate had no doubts that Barabbas was guilty. He was a test.

⇒ **Barabbas Was Chosen**

- Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent
 - Twice recorded "for envy" – Matt 27:18; Mark 15:10.
- Again, there were others who were in prison because of the same event.
Romans 11:22 – it is the goodness of God that we can be like Barabbas.

⇒ **Barabbas was ~~Crucified~~ Set Free**

- This is not Justice.
- Pilate must have been surprised by the people's response – Matt 27:18,21; Mark 15:10.
- Twice recorded about the people – Matt27:24; Mark 15:15

Conclusion:

- ⇒ The end of Barabbas is unwritten. Did he repent? Did he become a "friend and follower" of Jesus?

Application

➔ **You are that prisoner without Christ – Romans 6:16, John 8:34**

➔ **Barabbas is the open-ended question that is answered in each individual person**

⇒ **What will you do with Jesus Christ?**

⇒ **What have you done with Jesus Christ?**