

## SEQUOIA NOTES

### Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

#### The Road to the Cross

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Multiply and Mobilizer Catalyst

April 2, 2021



John 19:1-30 Then Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. <sup>2</sup>The soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they put a purple robe on him. <sup>3</sup>“Hail! King of the Jews!” they mocked, as they slapped him across the face. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went outside again and said to the people, “I am going to bring him out to you now, but understand clearly that I find him not guilty.” <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said, “Look, here is the man!”

<sup>6</sup>When they saw him, the leading priests and Temple guards began shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” “Take him yourselves and crucify him,” Pilate said. “I find him not guilty.” <sup>7</sup>The Jewish leaders replied, “By our law he ought to die because he called himself the Son of God.” <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this, he was more frightened than ever. <sup>9</sup>He took Jesus back into the headquarters again and asked him, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave no answer.<sup>10</sup> “Why don’t you talk to me?” Pilate demanded. “Don’t you realize that I have the power to release you or crucify you?”

<sup>11</sup>Then Jesus said, “You would have no power over me at all unless it were given to you from above. So the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.” <sup>12</sup>Then Pilate tried to release him, but the Jewish leaders shouted, “If you release this man, you are no ‘friend of Caesar.’ Anyone who declares himself a king is a rebel against Caesar.”

<sup>13</sup>When they said this, Pilate brought Jesus out to them again. Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform that is called the Stone Pavement (in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*). <sup>14</sup>It was now about noon on the day of preparation for the Passover. And Pilate said to the people, “Look, here is your king!” <sup>15</sup>“Away with him,” they yelled. “Away with him! Crucify him!” “What? Crucify your king?” Pilate asked. “We have no king but Caesar,” the leading priests shouted back. <sup>16</sup>Then Pilate turned Jesus over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus away. <sup>17</sup>Carrying the cross by himself, he went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, *Golgotha*). <sup>18</sup>There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>And Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” <sup>20</sup>The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek, so that many people could read it. <sup>21</sup>Then the leading priests objected and said to Pilate, “Change it from ‘The King of the Jews’ to ‘He said, I am King of the Jews.’” <sup>22</sup>Pilate replied, “No, what I have written, I have written.” <sup>23</sup>When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes among the four of them. They also took his robe, but it was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. <sup>24</sup>So they said, “Rather than tearing it apart, let’s throw dice for it.” This fulfilled the Scripture that says, “They divided my garments among themselves and threw dice for my clothing.” So that is what they did.

<sup>25</sup>Standing near the cross were Jesus’ mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, “Dear woman, here is your son.” <sup>27</sup>And he said to this disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from then on this disciple took her into his home. <sup>28</sup>Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, “I am thirsty.” <sup>29</sup>A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus had tasted it, he said, “It is finished!” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Jesus paid the debt that was ours.**

**Jesus faced the suffering we were destined for.**

**Jesus finished the work that we couldn’t do.**

**Following Jesus means to follow Him on the road to the cross.**

Luke 14: 25-27 A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple.<sup>27</sup> And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple.

**Following Jesus on the road to the cross is costly.**

Luke 14:28-33 “But don’t begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you. <sup>30</sup>They would say, ‘There’s the person who started that building and couldn’t afford to finish it!’ <sup>31</sup>“Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him? <sup>32</sup>And if he can’t, he will send a delegation to discuss terms of peace while the enemy is still far away. <sup>33</sup>So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own.

**Following Jesus on the road to the cross means saying no to self, so that we can say yes to Jesus.**

Mark 8:34-35 Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. <sup>35</sup>If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.

**Big Idea: Trust in the work of Jesus for your salvation and follow Him on the road to the cross.**

