

Pastor Jim Jackson, 8/9/26
Days With Jesus, Day 55—Torturing The Truth
John 19:1-16

Jesus is FLOGGED

After the Jews chose Barabbas over Jesus, Pilate hands him over to be flogged (Matt. 27:24). To punish criminals and maintain order in the Empire, Romans used a form of torture called flogging before crucifixion. As God, Jesus could've skipped ahead to the cross, but instead undergoes the regular process for lawbreakers. No one gets a free pass from problems, not even when you are perfect, not even when you are God! *An easy life doesn't exist, so pray for a strong character to endure* (Rom. 5:3-5)! The offender could then be stripped naked, tied to a post, and whipped until the soldiers were tired, or they died. This was done to weaken and humiliate so they wouldn't fight crucifixion. *When you do God's will, there's always purpose in the pain* (Rom. 8:28; 2 Cor. 4:16, 17)!

Jesus is STEADFAST

After whipping and beating him, the soldiers mock Jesus by putting a purple robe on his bleeding back and a crown of thorns on his head (Mark 15:16-20). Though he was truly the King of Kings and the King of the Jews, Jesus allows himself to be mocked and has mercy on those who deserve none. *Stay in the difficult moment and honor God!* Though he flogged Jesus unjustly, in a last-ditch effort to gain pity to release him, Pilate presents him as a naked, bloody mess in a purple robe and says, "*Behold the Man!*" Seeing the people are unmoved, and he has been betrayed and abandoned by all—including his family and friends—Jesus remains steadfast. *When you have no one else, you always have God* (Heb. 13:5, 6)!

Jesus is CONDEMNED

Once Pilate hears the Jews' complaint against Jesus was he claimed to be the 'Son of God,' he brings him in the praetorium to question him again. As the Romans are very superstitious and his wife had a dream about Jesus' innocence and told him to leave him alone, Pilate has been warned (Matt. 27:19). *Sometimes God uses multiple ways to warn us of our stupidity!* When Pilate threatens him with his authority, Jesus corrects his self-inflated view. Bringing him back out and seeing a riot is starting and he wasn't going to win, Pilate sits on the bema seat and condemns Jesus to crucifixion. *When you've done all you can do, trust what God is going to do!*