

# 5-Day Holy Week Devotional: Choosing Jesus

## Day 1: The Question Before Us

**Reading:** Matthew 27:11-26

**Devotional:** "Are you the King of the Jews?" Pilate's question to Jesus echoes through time to reach us today. But the more pressing question is the one Pilate posed to the crowd: "Which one do you want?" Every day, we face this same choice—Jesus Christ or the world's alternatives. Like Barabbas, we stand guilty, deserving judgment. Yet Jesus took our place on that cross. Today, examine your life honestly. What competes with Jesus for lordship in your heart? Money, reputation, comfort, control? The choice is binary—there is no middle ground. Jesus doesn't just want to be your Savior; He demands to be your Lord. Who will you choose today?

## Day 2: Silent Strength

**Reading:** Isaiah 53:1-12

**Devotional:** Jesus stood silent before His accusers, fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy: "Like a lamb led to slaughter, He opened not His mouth." This wasn't weakness—it was divine strength. He could have defended Himself, called legions of angels, or struck His enemies dead with a word. Instead, He chose silence because He knew truth doesn't need defense. When accusations fly against you for standing with Christ, remember His example. You don't need to justify yourself to everyone who questions your faith. Sometimes the most powerful witness is quiet confidence in God's sovereignty. Jesus remained silent so that His actions—His sacrifice—would speak louder than any words. Let your life proclaim what your lips need not defend.

## Day 3: The Weight of Choice

**Reading:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20

**Devotional:** "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life." God has always presented humanity with a choice. The crowd chose Barabbas—a murderer, a rebel, a representation of their own sinful nature. They chose themselves over their Savior. We face this same decision daily. Will we seek first God's kingdom or our own comfort? Will we surrender our will or cling to control? Salvation isn't a one-time prayer followed by business as usual. It's a daily dying to self and choosing Christ above all else. Examine your choices this

week. What do they reveal about whom you truly serve? Remember: you cannot serve both God and yourself. Choose Jesus—not just once, but every single day.

## Day 4: Who Do You Show?

**Reading:** Matthew 5:14-16

**Devotional:** You are either showing people the way to Jesus or the way away from Him—there is no neutral ground. The world watches how Christians respond when life gets difficult, when accusations fly, when suffering comes. Do they see Jesus in you, or do they see someone who merely talks about Him on Sundays? Barabbas represents the self-centered life; Jesus represents total surrender. Which kingdom do you display through your actions, your words, your priorities? When trials come—and they will—do you point others to Christ's sufficiency or to your own ability to "handle it"? This week, be intentional. Let your light shine not to draw attention to yourself, but to illuminate the path to Jesus for those stumbling in darkness.

## Day 5: Resurrection Living

**Reading:** Romans 6:1-14

**Devotional:** "Don't wait till Sunday to celebrate your eternal life." These words challenge our compartmentalized faith. Jesus didn't stay silent in the tomb—He rose in power! That same resurrection power now dwells in you through the Holy Spirit. You're not just saved FROM something; you're saved FOR something—abundant life in Christ. Stop living like Barabbas was released while Jesus remains dead. He is ALIVE, and so are you in Him! This means Monday morning has resurrection power. Wednesday's struggles can be met with resurrection hope. Friday's failures are covered by resurrection grace. As Holy Week culminates in Easter Sunday, remember: every day is resurrection day for those in Christ. Live loudly in that victory. Proclaim His name. Choose Jesus—today and every day—because He first chose you.