Luke

Chapter 23

Luke 23:1-25 Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

1 Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to
Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, "We
have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes
payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a
king." 3 So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the
Jews?" "You have said so," Jesus replied. 4 Then Pilate
announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no
basis for a charge against this man."

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5 But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over
Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has
come all the way here." 6 On hearing this, Pilate asked if
the man was a Galilean. 7 When he learned that Jesus
was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod,
who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

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8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because
for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what
he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform a
sign of some sort. 9 He plied him with many questions, but
Jesus gave him no answer. 10 The chief priests and the
teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently
accusing him. 11 Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and
mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent
him back to Pilate. 12 That day Herod and Pilate became
friends—before this they had been enemies.

Luke 23:1-25 Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

13 Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and
the people, 14 and said to them, “You brought me this
man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I
have examined him in your presence and have found no
basis for your charges against him. 15 Neither has Herod,
for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done
nothing to deserve death. 16 Therefore, I will punish him
and then release him.”

Luke 23:1-25 Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

18 But the whole crowd shouted, “Away with this man!
Release Barabbas to us!” 19 (Barabbas had been thrown
into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for
murder.) 20 Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to
them again. 21 But they kept shouting, “Crucify him!
Crucify him!” 22 For the third time he spoke to them:
“Why? What crime has this man committed? I have
found in him no grounds for the death penalty.
Therefore I will have him punished and then release
him.”

Luke 23:1-25 Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

23 But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that
he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. 24 So Pilate
decided to grant their demand. 25 He released the man
who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and
murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus
to their will.

Luke 23:26-43 The Crucifixion of Jesus

26 As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from
Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put
the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A
large number of people followed him, including women
who mourned and wailed for him. 28 Jesus turned and
said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for
me; weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the
time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the
childless women, the wombs that never bore and the
breasts that never nursed!’

Luke 23:26-43 The Crucifixion of Jesus

30 Then " 'they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!"
and to the hills, "Cover us!" ' 31 For if people do these
things when the tree is green, what will happen when it
is dry?" 32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led
out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the
place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along
with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his
left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not
know what they are doing." And they divided up his
clothes by casting lots.

Luke 23:26-43 The Crucifixion of Jesus

35 The people stood watching, and the rulers even
sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him
save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." 36
The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They
offered him wine vinegar 37 and said, "If you are the
king of the Jews, save yourself." 38 There was a written
notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE
JEWS.

Luke 23:26-43 The Crucifixion of Jesus

39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at
him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40
But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear
God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence?
41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our
deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."
42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come
into your kingdom." 43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell
you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:44-49 The Death of Jesus

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. 47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." 48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. 49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Luke 23:50-56 The Burial of Jesus

50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, 51 who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. 52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. 53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. 54 It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

Luke 23:50-56 The Burial of Jesus

55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. 56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

🙏 Prayer Based on Luke 23

Merciful Father,

As I reflect on the cross, I am humbled by the love of Your Son.
Though innocent, He bore the shame, the mockery, and the weight of sin for me.
Forgive me, Lord, for the times I, too, have chosen self over faithfulness,
or silence when I should have stood with Christ.

Jesus, like Simon of Cyrene, help me take up my cross and follow You,
not in my strength but in surrender.
Give me the courage of Joseph of Arimathea and the devotion of the women,
to serve You faithfully even in dark hours.

Thank You that at Calvary, You prayed, *“Father, forgive them.”*
Let that mercy sink deep into my heart.
Thank You for the promise of paradise spoken to the repentant thief —
a reminder that Your grace reaches even at life’s end.

May the torn curtain remind me that nothing now separates me from Your presence.
Teach me to live daily in that holy access,
trusting that when I entrust my spirit to You,
I rest in the same hands that received Your Son.

Through Jesus Christ, my Savior and King, Amen.