

This Week's Text: Mark 15:1-26 – Christ Atones for Our Treason

Next Week: Mark 15:1-27-47

I. We Commit Treason for Our Image (1-15)

- a. We're Amazed with Jesus' Claims (1-2)
- b. We're Amazed with Jesus' Charges (3-4, 10)
- c. We're Amazed with Jesus' Composure (5)
- d. But We Reject Jesus to Satisfy the Crowds (6-15)

II. We Commit Treason for Our Ideals (6-15)

- a. We Call for a Savior (6-8)
- b. We Chose a Savior (9-11)
- c. But Condemn the True Savior (12-15)

III. We Commit Treason for Our Interests (16-25)

- a. We Use Him to Feel Strong (16-20)
- b. We Use Him to Feel Superior (21)
- c. We Use Him to Feel Successful (22-24)
- d. But We Reject Jesus Once We're Satisfied (25)

IV. Our Treason Cannot Stop His Inevitability (26, Phil 2:5-11)

- a. Jesus Was, Is and Will Be Exalted (Phil 2:9)
- b. Jesus Was, Is and Will Be Exclaimed (Phil 2:10-11)

Corporate Reading Guide:

Read the other Gospel's accounts of Jesus encounter with Pilate and the crowds. Notice how little Jesus says or does – all while accomplishing the atonement. (Matthew 27:1-31; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16).

Discussion Questions:

1. What impacted you and/or what did you learn from our study of Mark this week?
2. What impacted you and/or what did you learn about the Gospel? What did you learn about **God's** character, **Man's** sinfulness and need, **Christ's** atonement and how He meets our need, or God's call on us to **Respond**?
3. When you think of traitor – who comes to mind (real or fictional) – and what was their motive?
4. Read Mark 15:1-5. Share a time when you, like Pilate, betrayed Jesus to protect your image, and what you learned from that experience.
5. Read Mark 15:6-15. What ideals and false messiahs like Barabbas are we as believers most likely to choose over Jesus?
6. Read Mark 15:16-25. We don't like comparing ourselves to the soldiers... But in what ways have we used Jesus to make ourselves feel strong, superior, or successful?
7. Read Mark 15:26 and Philippians 2:5-11. How does the inevitability of Christ's glorious exclamation and exultation give us hope as we serve Him imperfectly?