

**WORLD VIDEO BIBLE SCHOOL**  
Fundamentals of the Faith  
Charlie DiPalma

**LESSON #34 — JESUS IS OUR BEST FRIEND: HIS HUMILIATION, PART 2**

Then we want to look at a long passage of Scripture, bringing our minds back to the cross, and how the Lord was humiliated, and suffered so immensely on the behalf of you and me and all other human beings. Let's look in Matthew's account of the gospel in the 27th chapter. Matthew chapter 27, beginning with verse 26, and going through verse 50. Matthew 27, verse 26. "Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified." Of course, we know that Barabbas was a criminal. And Pilate had offered the people a choice, you can have this criminal released, or you can have Jesus released. And the people chose the criminal. The perfect, sinless Son of God, being exposed to that kind of humiliation, one who was a horrible criminal selected for release in the place of the Lord. And He was scourged. And we've talked about how horribly painful that was to be scourged, to be whipped with whips containing sharp objects. And then they delivered him to be crucified.

"Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!'" Bring your mind to that scene of the cross of His preparation for the cross. And think about that: the Son of God, the perfect, righteous, holy one, the Prince of life, being subjected to this kind of treatment by those whom he came to seek and save. Making fun of Him, ridiculing Him, mocking Him. What love the Lord showed for me and for you, and His willingness to endure that for us. who deserved that.

Verse 30. "Then they spat upon Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head." One of the worst insults that anyone can hurl at another person is to spit upon them. He didn't deserve that. He was our Savior, our Lord, the righteous one, and yet He endured that humiliation and suffering.

In verse 31. "And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified. Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross. And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull, they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink. Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: 'They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.'" quoting from the book of Psalms, chapter 22.

"Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, 'You who destroy the temple and build it in

three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” Again, we ask each one of us to put ourselves in the place of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Here are those people whom He came to live and suffer and bleed and died for. And they're blaspheming Him. They're speaking evil against Him in a hateful way. And they're making fun of Him and saying, “If you're really the Son of God, you come down from that cross, and you save Yourself, You who claimed to be able to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days.” Their thinking being that He was talking about a physical temple, and He thinking that He was going to be raised again from the dead, His body, His temple would be resurrected from the dead.

Then in verse 41. “Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, ‘He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.’” Here are the religious leaders of the people of Israel, chief priests, scribes, elders, heaping onto Jesus further humiliation, by the things that they said. Making fun of Him. Saying, “He saved others, but He can't save Himself.” They're saying, “You're not who you claim to be, Jesus. You're not the Savior or You'd be able to save yourself.” And saying, “If you're really the king of Israel, You come on down from that cross, and we'll believe You.” What our Lord suffered for us in terms of this kind of humiliation.

Verse 43, they continued, saying, “He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” Now the chief priests and the scribes and the elders are saying to Jesus, “You claim to be the Son of God, now let's see if God will deliver You, if He will even have You.” Man, that is unbelievable how those people could talk in such a way to the Lord Jesus Christ. But that's what we did, mankind did, to our Savior.

And verse 44. “Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing.” To revile one is to speak hatefully and make charges against another of their wrongdoing. There, those two robbers on either side of the Lord, were accusing Him in a hateful, unjust way, of things that He was not guilty of.

“Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?’ that is, ‘My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?’” Again, we must put ourselves in the place of Jesus, and think about His agony as a man, as He was wrestling with this death, that He had to die for me and you, knowing that the Father had placed upon Him, all of our sins, and the sins of all of mankind. And because those sins were placed upon Him, the Father turned momentarily away from the Son, and He was left by Himself. That was humiliating. That was immense suffering that he underwent for you and me.

“Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, ‘This Man is calling for Elijah!’ Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. The rest said, ‘Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.’ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.” In other words, He died. What a horrible crime was committed on that day, by those whom Jesus came to seek and save. And you and I had a part in that crime in that it's our sins which made that horrible humiliation and suffering necessary on the part of our Lord.

Remember the passage that we studied in the book of Isaiah, “The chastisement for our peace was upon Him.” He was chastised, humiliated, suffered, that we might have peace with

the Father. That tells us Jesus is the best friend that we could ever have, one who is willing to undergo that kind of humiliation and suffering.

The Hebrew writer makes reference to what the Lord endured for you and me in the 12th chapter of the book of Hebrews. Hebrews chapter 12, verses 2 through 4 Hebrews 12:2-4. "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin." The Hebrew writer draws our attention to Jesus, and says, as we run our race, this Christian life, we need to look to Jesus. He is the author and the finisher of our faith. He is the one who originated the system of faith, the gospel, that we might be saved from our sins. And he says, "Who endured the cross." Think about that word choice on the part of God there, "endured the cross." Jesus had to endure that humiliation and that suffering for those hours, as He went to the cross, and hung there and suffered for you and me.

And the Hebrew writer says, "Despising the shame," the shame that was associated with the cross. In Galatians 3, verse 13, God, through Paul, said that every man who hung on a cross was cursed. It was a cursed form of death, to hang on the tree, hang on a cross. The people of Israel knew that. Jesus was willing to endure that shame, that humiliation, for you and for me.

And then in verse three of this Hebrews, the 12 chapter, the Hebrew writer talks about that He endured such hostility from sinners. And he tells us that we need to keep that in mind as we go through our life, and not become wearied, discouraged. Be encouraged, be strengthened, be motivated, by that scene of Jesus, willing to endure this humiliation and this suffering for you and me. And then he says to us, the Hebrew writer does, that we haven't resisted to the point of bloodshed, striving against sin, but Jesus did. And He did it, because He's our best friend, because He loves us intensely, and He has shown it in such a beautiful way.

Then in the book of 1 Peter, 1 Peter, chapter 2, verse 23. 1 Peter chapter 2, verse 23. "Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously." Here Peter is talking about the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us a perfect example to follow. And He talks about Jesus as being reviled. As we mentioned previously, to revile means to make an accusation against another of wrongdoing, and to make it in an hateful, terrible way, humiliating and inflicting pain upon that person. That's what happened to Jesus, as we've seen, at the cross of Christ. And yet, Jesus didn't revile in return. He didn't strike back at those who were inflicting that humiliation and suffering upon Him. And when He suffered, Peter says, He suffered that humiliation on the cross, He didn't threaten those who inflicted that on Him. Instead, He committed himself to the Father, who judges righteously. So we can see here further, the humiliation, the suffering, that Jesus endured for you and I.

And then a final passage of Scripture on this subject, in 1 Peter chapter 3, verse 18. 1 Peter 3, verse 18. "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He may bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit." Here we see the picture of suffering again, Christ suffered once for sins. And notice how he refers to Jesus, and how he

refers to you and me: He said the just for the unjust. That is, Jesus is the just, He was perfectly righteous, He was perfectly good without sin. Didn't deserve to suffer. We're the ones who are unjust. We're not righteous. We're not good in the absolute sense of that word. We fall short of God's glory. He suffered for us. Why? According to this verse, that he might bring us to God, that He might make it possible for us to be reconciled, to be brought back to God, because we were separated from him in our trespasses and sins.

So these and other passages of Scripture, make it abundantly clear to us that Jesus demonstrated His tremendous friendship for us, in His willingness to be humiliated, and to suffer the cruelest form of death ever inflicted upon man. May we ever rejoice and grow in love for the Lord, and be even more dedicated to Him in our service to Him, as we think about His humiliation and suffering for us.