

Chapter 23 (13 - 25)

Pilate said to the religious leaders and to the people "You brought this man before me as a political agitator. Neither Herod nor I have found a case against the man. He has done nothing deserving death. I shall have him flogged and then let him go".

But the leaders and people screamed out "Away with him. Crucify him!" Pilate asked "Why? What harm has he done?" They kept shouting "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate then gave in to them and handed Jesus over for crucifixion.

Jesus, how great your mental suffering must have been as the crowd shouted for your death

Chapter 23 (26 - 34)

As Jesus was being led to the place of crucifixion, a man named Simon was coming into Jerusalem from the country. He was made to carry the cross behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed Jesus, including women who mourned for him. Jesus said to them "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For if this is how innocent people are treated, what will happen to people who are guilty?" Two criminals were led out with Jesus to be crucified with him.

Jesus, please help me to carry my cross each day