THE DEATH OF JESUS

Mark 15:1–47

Key Verse: 15:34

1. Describe Jesus’ encounter with Pilate (1–5). What stands out here, and why? Why is Barabbas released instead of Jesus? (6–15) What does it mean that Jesus is “scourged”?
2. Describe what the soldiers do (16–20; cf. 10:34; Is 50:6); what do these things mean to us? Why do they force Simon of Cyrene to carry Jesus’ cross, and what does this scene mean to us? (21; 8:34)
3. Where do they take him, and why offer him wine mixed with myrrh? (22,23) When they crucify him, why do they cast lots for his clothing? (24; Ps 22:18) What time is it? (25) What is the charge against him? (26) What else do they do, and why? (27)
4. What do those who pass by do and say, and why? (29,30) Who else mock him? (31a) What ironic truth is in their words? (31b) What else do they mockingly demand? (32a) Who joins in reviling Jesus, and why? (32b)
5. What else happens? (33) Read verse 34. What does it mean to be “forsaken” by God? What do these words tell us about what Jesus’ death means to us?
6. How do some misunderstand, and what do they do? (35,36) How is his death described? (37) What happens at that moment, and what does it mean? (38; cf. Heb 10:19,20) What does the centurion say, and why? (39)
7. What women are mentioned, and what is the significance of their being there? (40,41) How does Joseph of Arimathea serve Jesus in his death, and why is this important? (42–47)