

Greetings, today our manna is Judges 16; Acts 20; Jeremiah 29; Mark 15.

August 2 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: **For teaching purposes only**, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.]

Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: <https://www.e-sword.net/>

Judges 16

The weakness of Samson resurfaces.

Samson and Delilah

Jdg 16:1 Then went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot, and went in unto her.

The Gazites plot to kill Samson.

Jdg 16:2 And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed *him* in, and laid wait for him all night **in the gate of the city**, and were quiet all the night, saying, In the morning, when it is day, we shall kill him.

Jdg 16:3 And Samson lay till midnight, and arose at midnight, and took the doors of the gate of the city, and the two posts, and went away with them, bar and all, and put *them* upon his shoulders, and carried them up to the top of an hill that *is* before Hebron.

Samson lays till 'mid of night' [the word 'midnight supposedly was not used in that age] and departs. Whether the gate was a main gate or a side gate, Samson took gate, posts, bar and all; then carried them a distance to the top of a hill before Hebron. Several speculate as to why he did this. Some say it was to insult the city. Personally, it may have just been locked and he wanted out. In addition, Samson knew he had plenty of enemies, and gates to cities often were where the leaders of the city would meet and make decisions. He may have wanted to leave the leaders of that city a message.

We just read previously, that the Gazites laid wait to kill Samson in the 'gate' of the city. Whatever message Samson may have wanted to send; he left them with plenty to think about.

- His strength
- Their city now had 'no gate' at least not at one entrance.
- To fix their gate, they would either need to build a new one or work very hard to get the gate, posts, and bar down from the top of a hill before Hebron.
- The men plotting to kill Samson; would now be 'plotting' on how to repair their gate.

Jdg 16:4 And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

Jdg 16:5 And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength *lieth*, and by what *means* we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and **we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver.**

Apparently, it didn't take much convincing of Delilah to 'sell out' Samson. Samson may have loved her, but she coveted silver more and was led by an evil spirit.

While the **Jezebel spirit** corrodes Christians and churches from the inside out, the **Delilah spirit** entangles Christian leaders in ungodly relationships and unholy influences. More and more Christian fellowships are being infiltrated by a **Jezebel or a Delilah spirit**. At times, they can be behind the same 'face' or 'face behind a church'. Thus, one person or entity can become a 'double-threat'. [Escaping from the Dragon's Jaws – Shauna Manfredine]

Jdg 16:6 And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength *lieth*, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.

Jdg 16:7 And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.

The 'cat and mouse' games begin and we see the drama queen 'spirit of Delilah' play to his sympathy.

Seven Green Withs

Jdg 16:8 Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

Jdg 16:9 Now *there were men lying in wait*, **abiding with her in the chamber.** And she said unto him, *The Philistines be upon thee, Samson.* And he brake the withs, as a thread of tow is broken when it toucheth the fire. So his strength was not known.

Jdg 16:10 And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: now **tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.**

New Ropes

Jdg 16:11 And he said unto her, **If they bind me fast with new ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.**

Jdg 16:12 Delilah therefore took new ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, *The Philistines be upon thee, Samson.* And *there were liers in wait abiding in the chamber.* And he brake them from off his arms like a thread.

Jdg 16:13 And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me lies: **tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound.** And he said unto her, If thou weavest

the seven locks of my head with the web.

Weaving of the locks of his head with the web...

Jdg 16:14 And she fastened *it* with the pin, and said unto him, **The Philistines be upon thee, Samson.** And he awaked out of his sleep, and went away with the pin of the beam, and with the web.

Jdg 16:15 And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart *is* not with me? **thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth.**

1Co 15:33 Do not be led astray, “Evil company corrupts good habits.”

What Samson fails to realize; he wasn't dealing with a woman; **he was dealing with 'the spirit of Delilah'; a very strong seducing spirit** that is active to this very day and has brought down numerous men and women. This spirit can function in the flesh of a man or a woman.

Jdg 16:16 And it came to pass, when **she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;**

Jdg 16:17 **That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I *have been* a Nazarite unto Elohim from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.**

The Deadly Dark Side of the 'spirit of Delilah'

Jdg 16:18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the **lords of the Philistines**, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his heart. Then the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

Jdg 16:19 And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

Jdg 16:20 And she said, **The Philistines be upon thee, Samson.** And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that YHWH was departed from him.

Ironically, the very thing that truly caused his weakness, the lust of 'his eyes', were also taken from him. He went from the pinnacle of strength and power to a very deep dark valley of slavery; imprisoned, bound, and worked as an animal. The enemy shows no mercy.

Though YHWH had turned aside from Samson; He had not forgotten Samson, nor was He unaware of his plight among the Philistines. Nor was YHWH unaware that the Philistines were giving 'credit' to their pagan god Dagon for capturing Samson.

Jdg 16:21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

Samson's hair begins to grow again!

Jdg 16:22 Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

The Death of Samson

Jdg 16:23 And the princes of the Philistines gathered to slaughter a great slaughtering to Daḡon their mighty one, and to rejoice. And they said, "Our mighty one has given Shimshon our enemy into our hands!"

Painted Illustration of Dagon in Ancient Times

Dagon was the god of the Philistines. This image shows that the idol was represented in the combination of both man and fish. The name "Dagon" is derived from "dag" which means "fish."

Although there was a deep affection from Dagon's worshippers to their deity, the symbol of a fish in human form was really meant to represent fertility and the vivifying powers of nature and reproduction.

The Babylonians had a myth that a being emerged from the Erythraean Sea who was part man and part fish and thus adopted the deity into their culture in their earliest days in history. Their have also been discoveries of the fish-god in the sculptures found in Nineveh, Assyria.

"When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the temple of Dagon and set it by Dagon. And when the people of Ashdod arose early in the morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. So they took Dagon and set it in its place again. And when they arose early the next morning, there was Dagon, fallen on its face to the ground before the ark of the LORD. The head of Dagon and both the palms of its hands were broken off on the threshold; only the torso of Dagon was left of it. Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor any who come into Dagon's house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day."

- 1 Sam 5:2-5

"Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice. And they said: "Our god has delivered into our hands Samson our enemy!" When the people saw him, they praised their god; for they said: "Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy, The destroyer of our land, And the one who multiplied our dead."

- Judges 16:23-24



Jdg 16:24 And the people saw him, and praised their mighty one, for they said, "Our mighty one has given into our hands our enemy, the destroyer of our land, who slew many of us."

Now, the Philistines are not only giving ‘credit’ to their god Dagon; they call Samson forward in their drunken state, so that they could mock YHWH’s anointed. When believers sin and make themselves a mockery; this reflects badly on YHWH and affects others.

Jdg 16:25 And it came to be, when their hearts were glad, that they said, “Call for Shimshon, and let him entertain us.” So they called for Shimshon from the prison, and he entertained them. **And they made him stand between the columns.**

Samson had been humbled and now positions himself to turn back to YHWH. YHWH is always there for repentant hearts!

Jdg 16:26 **And Shimshon said to the young man who was holding his hand,** “Let me alone and let me feel the columns which support the house, so that I lean on them.”

Jdg 16:27 And the house was filled with men and women. And all the princes of the Philistines were there. And about **three thousand men and women were on the roof who watched Shimshon entertaining.**

Samson prays to YHWH. We must remember Samson’s strength came from YHWH; thus, this impending vengeance is actually by the strength of YHWH.

Jdg 16:28 **And Shimshon called to יהוה, saying,** “O Master יהוה, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, only this time, O Elohim, and let me avenge myself on the Philistines with vengeance for my two eyes!”

Jdg 16:29 And Shimshon took hold of the two middle columns which supported the house, and he braced himself against them, one on his right and the other on his left.

Jdg 16:30 **And Shimshon said, “Let me die with the Philistines!”** And he bowed himself mightily, and the house fell on the princes and all the people in it. **And the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life.**

Jdg 16:31 **And his brothers and all his father’s household came down and took him,** and brought him up and buried him between Tsor’ah and Eshta’ol in the burial-site of his father Manowah. **And he had ruled Yisra’el twenty years.**

Acts 20

Paul in Macedonia and Greece

Act 20:1 **After the uproar had ceased, Sha’ul called the taught ones to him, and having embraced them, went away to go to Macedonia.**

Act 20:2 And having gone through those parts, and having encouraged them with many

words, **he came to Greece**,

Act 20:3 where **he spent three months**. When he was about to sail to Suria, he decided to return through Makedonia, as a plot was made against him by the Yehudim.

Paul's plans to sail back to Syria, were changed when he was made known of a plot against him by the Yehudim. Therefore, he backtracks a good majority of the distance to Syria by land in which he had come. He had made faithful acquaintances along the way and many accompany him. Luke takes the time to record each faithful servant.

Act 20:4 And he was accompanied by

- Sopater of Beroia,
- and Aristarchos and Sekundos of the Thessalonians,
- and Gaios of Derbe,
- and Timotiyos,
- and Tuchikos and Trophimos of Asia.

Act 20:5 **And these, going ahead, waited for us at Troas.**

Act 20:6 And we **sailed away from Philippi after the Days of Unleavened Bread**, and came to them **at Troas in five days**, where we **stayed seven days**.

Eutychus Raised from the Dead

Act 20:7 And **on day one of the week,^a** the taught ones having gathered together to break bread, Sha'ul, intending to depart the next day, was reasoning with them and was extending the word till midnight. **Footnote: ^aGk. Sabbaths.**

'Day' is italicized, therefore, was not in the original text. Reading the sentence without 'day', would read 'And on one of the Sabbaths.' Often, this verse seems to be misinterpreted to justify the 'worship on Sundays' which is not ordained by His Word; but is 'ordained' by 'man' and changed by the Catholic Church.

Act 20:8 And there were many lamps in the upper room where they were assembled.

Act 20:9 And a certain young man, by name **Eutuchos**, was sitting in a window, being overpowered by a deep sleep. As Sha'ul kept on reasoning, he **was overcome by sleep** and **fell down from the third story**, and **was picked up dead**.

We are introduced to Eutuchos, a young man overcome by sleep. He falls three stories from a window where he had been sitting; and was picked up dead. Paul went to check on him; fell on him and embraced him; and told the crowd, not to be upset, his life was in him. Paul returns to the meeting room; broke bread and ate; then talked a long time until daybreak. By faith, Paul believed Eutuchos would be restored; therefore, Paul takes action and resumes where he left off believing all was well.

Afterward, they brought the young man in alive and they rejoiced. Then Luke records that ‘we’, the group of believers traveling along with Paul, had planned to go ahead of Paul and meet him at Assos.

Act 20:10 And Sha’ul, having gone down, fell on him, and embracing him said, “Do not be upset, for his life is in him.”

Act 20:11 Then going up again, and having broken bread and eaten, he talked a long while, even till daybreak, and so went forth.

Act 20:12 And they brought the young man in alive, and were encouraged, not a little.

Act 20:13 And we, going ahead to the ship, sailed to Assos, intending to take Sha’ul on board there, for so he had arranged, intending himself to go on foot.

Act 20:14 And when he met us at Assos, we took him on board and came to Mitulene.

Act 20:15 And from there we sailed, and the next day came opposite Chios. And the next day we arrived at Samos and remained at Trogyllion. And the following day we came to Miletus.



Paul hopes to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost, Shavuot.

Act 20:16 For Sha'ul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might lose no time in Asia, for he was hurrying to be at Yerushalayim, if possible, on the **Day of the Festival of Shabu'oth**.^b Footnote: ^bCounted from the day on which the sheaf of the first-fruits is waved during the Festival of Matzot (Unleavened Bread) - See [Lev 23:10-21](#). (The morrow after the Sabbath.) See also [Act 2:1](#).

Paul Speaks to the Ephesian Elders

Instead of Paul going to Ephesus, he calls the elders to him in Miletos.

Act 20:17 And from **Miletos** he sent to Ephesos and called for the elders of the assembly.

Paul gives a heartfelt message and words of caution to the elders of Ephesus.

Act 20:18 **And when they had come to him, he said to them, "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia,** how I was with you all the time,

Act 20:19 serving the Master with all humility, with many tears and trials which befell me **by the plotting of the Yehudim,**

Act 20:20 as I kept back no *matter* that was profitable, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house,

Act 20:21 **witnessing to Yehudim, and also to Greeks:** repentance toward Elohim and belief in our Master **יהושע** Messiah.

Act 20:22 "And now see, I go bound in the spirit to Yerushalayim, not knowing what is going to meet me there,

Act 20:23 except that the **Set-apart Spirit witnesses in every city, saying that chains and pressures await me.**

Act 20:24 "But **I do not count my life of any value** to me, so that I might accomplish my mission with joy, and the service which I received from the Master **יהושע**, to bear witness to the Good News of the favour of Elohim.

Act 20:25 "And now see, I know that you all, among whom I went about proclaiming the reign of Elohim, shall see my face no more.

Act 20:26 "Therefore I witness to you this day that I am clear from the blood of all.

Act 20:27 "For I kept not back from declaring to you all the counsel of Elohim.

Act 20:28 "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Set-apart Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the assembly of Elohim which He has purchased with His own blood.

Act 20:29 "**For I know this, that after my departure **savage wolves^c shall come in among you, not sparing the flock.**** Footnote: ^c [Mat 7:15-23](#), [Mat 10:16](#), [Luk 10:3](#), [Joh 10:12](#), [Act 20:29](#).

Act 20:30 "Also from among yourselves men shall arise, **speaking distorted teachings,** to draw away the taught ones after themselves.

Act 20:31 "**Therefore watch,** remembering that for three years, night and day, I did not cease to warn each one with tears.

Act 20:32 “**And now, brothers, I commit you to Elohim** and to the word of His favour, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those having been set apart.

Act 20:33 “I have coveted no one’s silver or gold or garments.

Act 20:34 “And you yourselves know that these hands supplied my needs, and for those who were with me.

Act 20:35 “All this I did show you, by laboring like this, that you ought to help the weak. And remember the words of the Master **יהושע**, that He said, **‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”**

A very bittersweet departure, yet one day we will all be gathered again. Paul knew some type of persecution laid ahead of him in Jerusalem; even possible death. Mentally and spiritually Paul had prepared himself; he was even willing to lay his life down.

Act 20:36 And having said this, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Act 20:37 And there was much weeping among them all, and falling on Sha’ul’s neck, they kissed him,

Act 20:38 **distressed most of all because of the word which he had said, that they would see his face no more. And they went with him to the ship.**

Jeremiah 29

YHWH has words to give to the exiles in Babel;
to those that refused to go into exile willingly;
and to Shemayahu...

Despite what **the false prophets and priests** said, the words of the true prophet Jeremiah would prevail. Those words were from YHWH and this exile would last 70 years.

Do we know YHWH’s Word well enough to discern false prophets and priests in our day?

Jeremiah's Letter to the Exiles

Jer 29:1 And these are the words of the letter which Yirmeyah the prophet sent from Yerushalayim to

- the rest of the elders of the exile, and
- to the priests, and
- to the prophets and
- to all the people whom Nebukadnetzar had exiled from Yerushalayim to Babel

Jer 29:2 after Yekonyah the sovereign, and the sovereignty mother, and the eunuchs, and the heads of Yehudah and Yerushalayim, and the craftsmen, and the smiths had

gone *into exile* from Yerushalayim –

Jer 29:3 by the hand of El'asah son of Shaphan, and Gemaryah the son of Hilkiah, whom Tsidqiyah sovereign of Yehudah sent to Babel, to Nebukadnetzar the sovereign of Babel, saying,

Jer 29:4 “Thus said **יהוה** of hosts, Elohim of Yisra'el, to all the exiles whom I exiled from Yerushalayim to Babel,

- **Jer 29:5** Build houses and dwell *in them*,
- plant gardens and eat their fruit.
- **Jer 29:6** Take wives and bring forth sons and daughters.
- And take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, and let them bear sons and daughters, and be increased there, and not diminished.
- **Jer 29:7** And seek the peace of the city where I have exiled you, and pray to **יהוה** for it, for in its peace you have peace.’

Jer 29:8 “For thus said **יהוה** of hosts, Elohim of Yisra'el,

- ‘Let not your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you,
- neither listen to the dreams which you are dreaming.
- **Jer 29:9** For they are prophesying falsely to you in My Name. I have not sent them,’ declares **יהוה**.

When 70 years are completed at Babel...

Jer 29:10 “For thus said **יהוה**,

- ‘When seventy years are completed, at Babel
- I shall visit you and
- establish My good word toward you, to
- bring you back to this place.
 - **Jer 29:11** For I know the plans I am planning for you,’ declares **יהוה**, ‘plans of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and an expectancy.
 - **Jer 29:12** Then you shall call on Me, and shall come and pray to Me, and I shall listen to you.
 - **Jer 29:13** And you shall seek Me, and shall find Me, **when you search for Me with all your heart.**^a Footnote: ^a [Deu 4:29](#), [Joe 2:12](#).

Jer 29:14 **And I shall be found by you,’ declares יהוה**, ‘and

- I shall turn back your captivity, and
- shall gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, declares **יהוה**.
- And I shall bring you back to the place from which I have exiled you.’

Jer 29:15 “Because you have said, ‘יהוה has raised up prophets for us in Babel’ –

Now YHWH has a word for the brethren who chose NOT to go with them into exile.

Jer 29:16 thus said יהוה concerning the sovereign who sits on the throne of Dawid, concerning all the people who dwell in this city, and **concerning your brothers who have not gone out with you into exile,**

Jer 29:17 thus said יהוה of hosts,

- ‘See, I am sending on them the sword,
- the scarcity of food, and
- the pestilence.
- And I shall make them like spoilt figs, so spoilt as to be uneatable.
- Jer 29:18 And I shall pursue them with the sword,
- with scarcity of food, and
- with pestilence.
- And I shall make them a horror among all the reigns of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and a hissing, and a reproach among all the nations where I have driven them.

Jer 29:19 For they did not heed My words,’ declares יהוה, ‘which I sent to them by My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, yet you did not listen,’ declares יהוה.

Jer 29:20 “You, therefore, hear the word of יהוה, all you exiles whom I have sent from Yerushalayim to Babel.

Jer 29:21 “Thus said יהוה of hosts, the Elohim of Yisra’el, concerning **Ahab** son of Qolayah, and **Tsidqiyahu** son of Ma’asēyah, who **are prophesying falsely to you in My Name,** ‘See, I am giving them into the hand of **Nebukadretsar** sovereign of Babel, and he shall strike them before your eyes.

Their names will be remembered as associated with a curse.

Jer 29:22 And because of them all the exiles of Yehudāh who are in Babel shall use a curse, saying, “יהוה make you like Tsidqiyahu and Ahab, whom the sovereign of Babel roasted in the fire,”

Jer 29:23 because they have done wickedness in Yisra’el, and committed adultery with their neighbors’ wives, and have spoken a word in My Name falsely which I have not commanded them. And I am He who knows, and a witness,’ declares יהוה.

Shemaiah's False Prophecy – YHWH has a direct message for Shemayahu

Jer 29:24 “And speak to Shemayahu the Neḥelamite, saying,

Jer 29:25 “Thus speaks יהוה of hosts, the Elohim of Yisra’ēl, saying,

- ‘Because **you have sent letters in your name** to all the people who are at Yerushalayim, to Tsephanyah son of Ma’asēyah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,
 - Jer 29:26 “יהוה has made you priest instead of Yehoyada the priest, so that there are overseers in the House of יהוה over everyone who is mad and makes himself a prophet, that you should put him in the stocks and in the iron collar.

Jer 20:1 And Pashḥur son of Immēr, the priest who was also chief governor in the House of יהוה, heard that Yirmeyahu prophesied these words,

Jer 20:2 And Pashḥur struck Yirmeyahu the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Binyamin, which was by the House of יהוה.

Jer 29:27 “So why have you not reproved Yirmeyahu of Anathoth who makes himself a prophet to you?

Jer 29:28 “For he has sent to us in Babel, saying, ‘*This captivity is long – build houses and dwell in them, and plant gardens and eat their fruit.*’ ” ’ ”

Jer 29:29 And **Tsephanyah the priest read this letter in the hearing of Yirmeyahu the prophet.**

Jer 29:30 Then the word of יהוה came to Yirmeyahu, saying,

Jer 29:31 “Send to all those in exile, saying, ‘Thus said יהוה concerning Shemayah the Neḥelamite,

- “Because Shemayah has prophesied to you, and I have not sent him, and he has made you to trust on falsehood,”

Jer 29:32 therefore thus said יהוה,

- “See, I am bringing punishment upon Shemayah the Neḥelamite and his seed:
- he shall have no one to dwell among this people,
- nor is he to see the good that I am about to do for My people,” declares יהוה, “because he has spoken apostasy against יהוה.” ’ ’ ”

Mark 15

Yahusha Delivered to Pilate

Mar 15:1 And immediately, in the morning, the chief priests had a council *meeting* with the elders and scribes and all the council. Having bound יהושע, they led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate.

Mar 15:2 And Pilate asked Him, “Are You the Sovereign of the Yehudim?” And He answering, said to him, “You say it.”

Mar 15:3 And the chief priests accused Him of much, but He made no answer.

Mar 15:4 And Pilate again asked Him, saying, “Have You no answer? See how much they witness against You!”

Mar 15:5 But **יהושע** still gave no answer, so that Pilate marveled.

Isa 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, but He did not open His mouth. He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, but He did not open His mouth.

Pilate Delivers Yahusha to Be Crucified

Mar 15:6 And at a festival he released to them one prisoner, whomever they were asking.

Mar 15:7 And there was one called **Barabba**, chained with his fellow rebels, who had committed murder in the uprising.

Mar 15:8 And the crowd, crying aloud, began to ask, as he had always done for them.

Mar 15:9 But Pilate answered them, saying, “Do you wish me to release for you the Sovereign of the Yehudim?”

Mar 15:10 **For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.**

Mar 15:11 And the chief priests stirred up the crowd, that he should rather release **Barabba** to them.

Mar 15:12 And Pilate answered and again said to them, “What then do you wish me to do *to Him* **whom you call the Sovereign of the Yehudim?**”

Mar 15:13 And again they cried out, “**Impale Him!**”

Mar 15:14 And Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has He done?” And they vehemently cried out, “**Impale Him!**”

Mar 15:15 And Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabba to them, and having whipped Him, he delivered יהושע over to be impaled.

To this day, those driven by evil, use mob mentality and lawlessness to get their way. The tares squeeze their way into leadership offices and use unequal weights and measures. They use any means necessary to target and convict those not in ‘agreement’ with their evil ways. All the while crying they are being persecuted, while just the opposite is true.

Case in point is articles like this: https://www.christianheadlines.com/contributors/will-maule/california-lawmakers-pass-resolution-blaming-religious-people-for-high-suicide-rates-in-the-lgbt-community.html?utm_source=ChristianHeadlines%20Daily&utm_campaign=Christian%20Headlines%20Daily%20-%20ChristianHeadlines.com&utm_medium=email&utm_content=2889074&bcid=5bea0da8cb2c1886d1ab161e8d4f072c&recip=536398860%20

Yahusha Is Mocked

Mar 15:16 And the soldiers led Him away into the court, which is the palace, and they called together the entire company *of soldiers*,

Mar 15:17 and decked Him with purple. And they plaited a crown of thorns, put it on Him,

Mar 15:18 and they began to call out to Him, “Greetings, Sovereign of the Yehudim!”

Mar 15:19 And they kept beating Him on the head with a reed and were spitting on Him. And bending the knee, they were bowing down to Him.

Mar 15:20 And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, and put His own garments on Him, and led Him out to impale Him.

Divinely, Yahusha’s Priestly garments were returned to Him. It would be of utmost importance that His woven one-piece garment is not torn; otherwise, according to the ‘Book of the Law’, He would be ‘disqualified’ as High Priest of the Melchizedek Order.

Mocking is part of the enemy’s tactics. It goes hand in hand with mob mentality and false witnesses. It is entrapment of innocent people; however, Yahusha was in control. He had chosen to give His life and take it back up for many.

Paul was YHWH’s chosen vessel to spread the Covenant Confirming Gospel message after His death. Paul too would suffer much persecution and ultimately give his life. Paul was mocked, stoned, whipped, snake bit, ship-wrecked, imprisoned, beaten with rods, and so forth; yet, counted it all gain.

Php 3:7 But what might have been a gain to me, I have counted as loss, because of Messiah.

Php 3:8 What is more, I even count all to be loss because of the excellence of the knowledge of Messiah **יהושע** my Master, for whom I have suffered the loss of all, and count them as refuse, in order to gain Messiah,

Php 3:9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through belief in Messiah, the righteousness which is from Elohim on the basis of belief,

Php 3:10 to know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Php 3:11 if somehow I might attain to the resurrection from the dead.

The Crucifixion

Mar 15:21 And they compelled a passer-by, **Shim'on, a Cyrenian**, coming from a field, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear His stake.

Mar 15:22 And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull.

Mar 15:23 And they were giving Him wine mixed with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it.

Mar 15:24 And when they impaled Him, **they divided His garments, casting lots for**

them, [Psa 22:18](#) what each one should take.

Psa 22:18 They divide My garments among them, And **for My raiment they cast lots**.

Mar 15:25 And **it was the third hour, and they impaled Him**.

Mar 15:26 And the inscription of His accusation was written above: THE SOVEREIGN OF THE YEHUDIM.

Mar 15:27 And with Him they impaled two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left.

Mar 15:28 And the Scripture was filled which says, **“And He was reckoned with the lawless.”** [Isa 53:12](#).

Isa 53:12 Therefore I give Him a portion among the great, and He divides the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His being unto death, and He was counted with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Mar 15:29 And those passing by were blaspheming Him, **shaking their heads**

[Psa 22:7](#) and saying, “Ah! You who destroy the Dwelling Place and build it in three days,

Psa 22:7 All those who see Me mock Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, *saying*,

Psa 22:8 “He trusted in יהוה, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, seeing He has delighted in Him!”

Mar 15:30 save Yourself, and come down from the stake!”

Mar 15:31 And **likewise the chief priests and the scribes, mocking to one another** said, “He saved others, He is unable to save Himself.

Mar 15:32 “The Messiah? The Sovereign of Yisra’el? Come down now from the stake, so that we see and believe.” And those who were impaled with Him were reproaching Him.

Those being led by the enemy, didn’t get it. They all were playing right into the perfect plan of YHWH. By Yahusha laying down His life and taking it back up again; greater things would be accomplished! It was the ‘secret of Elohim.’ Through Yahusha’s death, burial, and resurrection; Yahusha proposes to us once again. He offers us the ‘new’ covenant, ratified by His precious blood. For those that say yes to Yahusha and receive His proposal; they become a kingdom of priests of every tongue, tribe, people, and nations. They are given the Ruach HaKodesh and having been scattered all over the world; they boldly proclaim His salvation by the Name above all names, Yahusha HaMashiach!

The Death of Yahusha

Mar 15:33 And when the **sixth hour came**, darkness came over all the land until the **ninth hour**.

Mar 15:34 And at the ninth hour **יהושע** cried out with a loud voice, saying, "**Ĕli, Ĕli, lamah shebaqtani?**"^a which is translated, "**My Ĕli, My Ĕli, why have You forsaken Me?**" [Psa 22:1](#). Footnote: ^aIn Hebrew - "Eli, Eli lamah azabtani" - as per [Psa 22:1](#).

Mar 15:35 And some of those standing by, when they heard it, said, "See, He is calling for Ĕliyahu!"

[Psa 22:1](#) My Ĕli, My Ĕli, why have You forsaken Me – Far from saving Me, *far from the words of My groaning?*

Mar 15:36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with **sour wine**, and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him **to drink**, [Psa 69:21](#) saying, "Leave Him, let us see if Ĕliyahu does come to take Him down."

[Psa 69:21](#) And they gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Mar 15:37 And **יהושע** cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last.

Mar 15:38 And the veil of the Dwelling Place was torn in two from top to bottom.

Mar 15:39 And when **the captain**, who was standing opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, "**Truly this Man was the Son of Elohim!**"

Mar 15:40 And there were also women watching from a distance, among whom was also Miryam from Maḡdala, and Miryam the mother of Ya'aqob the Less and of Yosēph, and Shelomah,

Mar 15:41 who also followed Him and attended Him when He was in Galil, and many other women who came up with Him to Yerushalayim.

Yahusha Is Buried

Mar 15:42 And when evening had come, because **it was the Preparation Day, that is, the day before the Sabbath,**

Mar 15:43 **Yosēph of Ramathayim, a prominent council member**, who was himself waiting for the reign of Elohim, came, **boldly went in to Pilate and asked for the body of יהושע**.

Mar 15:44 But Pilate wondered whether He was already dead, so summoning the captain, he asked him if He was already dead.

Mar 15:45 And when he learned *this* from the captain, he gave the body to Yosēph.

YHWH made sure that his death would be confirmed so there would be no doubt that He died. The captain, well trained in determining death of the accused, affirmed to Pilate that Yahusha was dead.

Mar 15:46 And he, having **bought fine linen**, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.

Joh 19:38 And after this, Yosëph of Ramathayim, being a taught one of יהושע, but secretly, for fear of the Yehuđim, asked Pilate that he might take the body of יהושע, and Pilate gave permission. Therefore he came and took the body of יהושע.

Joh 19:39 And Nađdimon, who at first came to יהושע by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.

Joh 19:40 Then they took the body of יהושע, and bound it in linen wrappings with the spices, as was the habit of the Yehuđim for burial.

Joh 19:41 And at the place where He was impaled there was a garden, and in the garden a fresh tomb in which no one had yet been laid.

Joh 19:42 There, then, because of the Preparation *Day* of the Yehuđim, they laid יהושע, because the tomb was near.

Mar 15:47 And Miryam from Mađdala, and Miryam the *mother* of Yosëph, saw where He was laid.

~ *Shalom* ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>