

3ABN SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL  
012 - TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

**THE CRUCIFIXION**

This week's lesson focuses on Mark 14, beginning with the fifth SANDWICH STORY, which interlinks two opposite actions in relation to Jesus. This is followed by the Last Supper, followed by His struggle in Gethsemane. There He is arrested and taken before the leaders to be tried. The trial scene is linked with Peter's denial of Jesus, forming the sixth and last of the Sandwich Stories in Mark. Again, two opposite actions occur, but by an ironic twist, they affirm the same truth.

Mark 15:21–38 (NKJV) (21) Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, to bear His cross. (22) And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull. (23) Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it. (24) And when they crucified Him, they divided His garments, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. (25) Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. (26) And the inscription of His accusation was written above:

“THE KING OF THE JEWS. (27) With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. (28) So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And He was numbered with the transgressors.” (29) And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, (30) save Yourself, and come down from the cross!” (31) Likewise the chief priests also, mocking among themselves with the scribes, said, “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. (32) Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe.” Even those who were crucified with Him reviled Him. (33) Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. (34) And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which is translated, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (35) Some of those who stood by, when they heard that, said, “Look, He is calling for Elijah!” (36) Then someone ran and filled a sponge full of sour wine, put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink, saying, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down.” (37) And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. (38) Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.”

What terrible, and painful, irony appears in these passages?

**THE GRADUAL BETRAYAL OF JESUS:**

1. **The Affirmation of Christ's divinity.**
  - a. John 1:1–3 (NKJV) “(1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) He was in the beginning with God. (3) All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”
2. **It was not at the end of Jesus ministry but at the announcement of His messiahship.**

- a. John 1:11 (NKJV) “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.”
  - b. When the divinity of Jesus is denied, once again “His own did not receive Him.”
3. **The Denial of Christ’s Divinity:** Mark 14:60–61 (NKJV) “**(60)** And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, “Do You answer nothing? What *is it* these men testify against You?” **(61)** But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”
  4. **The Confirmation of Jesus Divinity:** Mark 14:62 ¶ Jesus said, “I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”
  5. **The Assurance of His Pre-existence:** John 8:58 (NKJV) “Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.””
  6. **The Validation of Jesus eternal existence:**
    - John 17:5 (NKJV) “And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”
    - Micah 5:2 (NKJV) “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.””
    - Habakkuk 1:12 (NKJV) “Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, You have appointed them for judgment; O Rock, You have marked them for correction.”
  7. When the temporal creature interrogates the Eternal God, it is a departure from honoring Jesus as the eternal Father.
    - Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV) “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

The Jesus they crucified is:

The Great Immanuel, the Light of the World, the Alpha and Omega, the Bright and Morning star, Prince of Peace