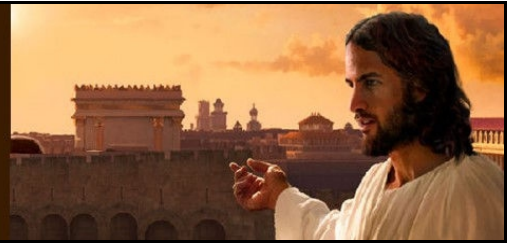


## *The Gospel According to Mark*

# He Endured the Scorn of Men

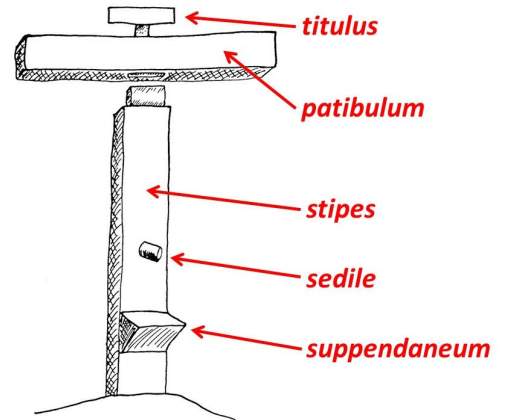
Mark 15:16-32



2/5/2023 AM

### Introduction:

I Peter 2:20-24



### I. THE PATHWAY TO THE CROSS (vs. 16-24)

A. The Contempt of the Soldiers (vs. 16-20)

B. The Conscription of Simon (vs. 21) - Acts 19:33; Romans 16:13

C. The Crucifixion Site (vs. 22-24)

### II. THOSE PRESENT AT THE CROSS (vs. 25-32)

A. The King of the Jews (vs. 25-28)

“This is Jesus, the Nazarene, the king of the Jews.” (Latin = *Iesus Nazarenos Rex Iudaeorum* = INRI)

B. The Crowds Passing By (vs. 29-30)

C. The Chief Priests and Scribes (vs. 31-32a)

D. The Thieves Beside Him (vs. 32b)

Psalm 22:1, 14-18

## Conclusion:

### The Crucifixion of Jesus: The Passion of Christ from a Medical Point of View

"Simon is ordered to place the *patibulum* [crosspiece] on the ground and Jesus is quickly thrown backwards with His shoulders against the wood. The legionnaire feels for the depression at the front of the wrist. He drives a heavy, square, wrought-iron nail through the wrist and deep into the wood. Quickly, he moves to the other side and repeats the action, being careful not to pull the arms too tightly, but to allow some flexion and movement. The *patibulum* is then lifted in place at the top of the *stipes* [the vertical beam]....

"The left foot is pressed backward against the right foot, and with both feet extended, toes down, a nail is driven through the arch of each, leaving the knees moderately flexed. The Victim is now crucified. As He slowly sags down with more weight on the nails in the wrists, excruciating, fiery pain shoots along the fingers and up the arms to explode in the brain - the nails in the wrists are putting pressure on the median nerves. As He pushes Himself upward to avoid this stretching torment, He places His full weight on the nail through His feet. Again there is the searing agony of the nail tearing through the nerves between the metatarsal bones of the feet.

"At this point, another phenomenon occurs. As the arms fatigue, great waves of cramps sweep over the muscles, knotting them in deep, relentless, throbbing

pain. With these cramps comes the inability to push Himself upward.... Air can be drawn into the lungs, but cannot be exhaled. Jesus fights to raise Himself in order to get even one small breath. Finally carbon dioxide builds up in the lungs and in the blood stream and the cramps partially subside. Spasmodically He is able to push himself upward to exhale and bring in the life-giving oxygen....

"Hours of this limitless pain, cycles of twisting, joint-rendering cramps, intermittent partial asphyxiation, searing pain as tissue is torn from His lacerated back as He moves up and down against the rough timber. Then another agony begins. A deep crushing pain deep in the chest as the pericardium slowly fills with serum and begins to compress the heart....

"It is now almost over - the loss of tissue fluids has reached a critical level - the compressed heart is struggling to pump heavy, thick, sluggish blood into the tissues - the tortured lungs are making a frantic effort to gasp in small gulps of air....

"The body of Jesus is now *in extremis*, and He can feel the chill of death creeping through His tissues....

"His mission of atonement has been completed. Finally He can allow His body to die."

Source: C. Truman Davis, "The Crucifixion of Jesus: The Passion of Christ from a Medical Point of View", *Arizona Medicine* 22:3 (March 1965):185-87.

## Food for Thought:

- 1) Describe the torments Jesus suffered and why:
  - a) physically beaten
  - b) psychologically ridiculed
  - c) spiritually abandoned by God
  - d) mortally executed
- 2) What is your complicity in each of these torments?
- 3) We use terms like "substitutionary atonement", "propitiation", "reconciliation". Should we continue using these terms? How would you explain these terms to someone not familiar with theological jargon?