

Deuteronomy 32:36–39

³⁶The Lord will vindicate his people
and have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone
and there is none remaining, bond or free.
³⁷Then he will say, "Where are their gods,
the rock in which they took refuge,
³⁸who ate the fat of their sacrifices
and drank the wine of their drink offering?
Let them rise up and help you;
let them be your protection!
³⁹"See now that I, even I, am he,
and there is no god beside me;
I kill and I make alive;
I wound and I heal;
and there is none that can deliver
out of my hand."

Psalms 31:9–16**Philippians 2:5–11**

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which
is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in
the form of God, did not count equality with God
a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing,
taking the form of a servant, being born in the
likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human
form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death, even death on a cross.
⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and
bestowed on him the name that is above every
name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee
should bow, in heaven and on earth and under
the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Luke 23:1–56

¹Then the whole company of them arose
and brought him before Pilate. ²And they began
to accuse him, saying, "We found this man
misleading our nation and forbidding us to give
tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is
Christ, a king." ³And Pilate asked him, "Are you
the King of the Jews?" And he answered him,
"You have said so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief
priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this
man." ⁵But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up
the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from
Galilee even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether
the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned
that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent
him over to Herod, who was himself in
Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus,
he was very glad, for he had long desired to see
him, because he had heard about him, and he was
hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹So he
questioned him at some length, but he made no
answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood
by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with
his soldiers treated him with contempt and
mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid
clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod
and Pilate became friends with each other that
very day, for before this they had been at enmity
with each other.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief
priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said
to them, "You brought me this man as one who
was misleading the people. And after examining
him before you, behold, I did not find this man
guilty of any of your charges against him.

¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us.
Look, nothing deserving death has been done by
him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release him."

¹⁸But they all cried out together, "Away
with this man, and release to us Barabbas"—¹⁹a
man who had been thrown into prison for an
insurrection started in the city and for murder.
²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to

release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted.

²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

²⁶And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

⁵⁰Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. ⁵⁴It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.