Life Interrupted ~ Mark 15: 1-39

Jesus is the great interruption of history. He demands an answer. He is the stumbling block (1 Cor. 1:23–24). **Don't miss a good Jesus interruption.**

1. JESUS INTERRUPTS PILATE | vv. 1–15

Passover crowds fill Jerusalem. Rome expects Pilate to keep order. The last thing he needs is another disturbance.

Pilate knows they have delivered Jesus out of **envy**; he finds no guilt in Him. Pilate, wanting to satisfy the crowd, releases the guilty man and condemns the innocent one.

Pilate begins by seeking freedom for Jesus and ends by seeking it for himself. Matthew says he washes his hands. But washing your hands cannot wash away your responsibility for Christ. **We know what Christ says, but fear what obedience might cost.**

Will we choose Christ or the crowd?

2. JESUS INTERRUPTS SIMON | v. 21

Jesus, flogged and beaten, travels toward Golgotha. **Simon of Cyrene**, from North Africa, enters the city for Passover with other plans.

Mark names Simon's sons, **Alexander and Rufus**. Paul later greets a Rufus in Rome (Rom. 16:13). **Could God be doing His best work in your bad, strange, messy day?** While men were doing their worst, God was accomplishing redemption. **Do you have time for Jesus when He interrupts you? With a cross?**

3. JESUS INTERRUPTS THE REBELS | vv. 27, 32

At Golgotha, Jesus is crucified between two criminals, **one on His right and one on His left**. Both men meet the same crucified King. One mocks; the other trusts. **Grace opened a sinner's eyes.** The stumbling block of all stumbling blocks is where God saves sinners. **Are you waiting for a more convenient time?** The thief had none left. There was mercy for him; there is mercy for you. **Come to Christ. His kingdom is entered by faith.**

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4. JESUS INTERRUPTS THE CENTURION | vs. 33–39

At Passover, the true Lamb bears the judgment of His people. Jesus cries from Psalm 22: **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"** He bears our sin and curse (Gal. 3:13). **Here is our substitute.**

Jesus utters **a loud cry** and dies (v. 37). The temple curtain tears **from top to bottom**: through His blood, sinners have access to the Father. At His baptism, the heavens were **torn open**, and the Father called Him His beloved Son (Mark 1:10–11). Now the curtain tears, and a **Gentile** speaks.

A Roman centurion has watched the beating, the mockery, and the execution. He has seen men die, but **this death interrupts him**: **"Truly this man was the Son of God!"** (v. 39). The leaders condemned Him, Pilate surrendered Him, and the crowds mocked Him. Yet the soldier confesses the truth announced in Mark 1:1.

HAS JESUS INTERRUPTED YOU?

Church, has the veil been torn before you? Can you see Jesus on the cross **for you**? **Who do you see?** A teacher? A fraud? A victim of Rome? Or **the Son of God who loved you and gave Himself for you?**

Our sin put Him on that tree. We were the guilty ones. He took our place. When He is lifted up, He will draw people to Himself (John 12:32).

Do not miss a Jesus interruption. See how He died. See how He cried. See how He overcame. Give a cry of faith. Look to the cross!