

GIVE US BARABBAS

“At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas... (Pilate asked the crowd,) ‘Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?’ ‘BARABBAS!’ they answered. ‘What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?’ They all answered, ‘CRUCIFY HIM!’ ... ‘CRUCIFY HIM!’ ... HIS BLOOD IS ON US AND ON OUR CHILDREN!” (Matthew 27: 16-17, 21-23, 25 NIV).

“Surely, He took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered Him punished by God, stricken by Him and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:4-6 NIV).

1. BARABBAS WAS GUILTY

“I found that though God has made men upright, each has turned away to follow his own downward road” (Ecclesiastes 7:29 LB).

“All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one” (Psalm 14:3 NIV).

“For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard” (Romans 3:23 NLT).

2. BARABBAS WAS SENTENCED

“For the wages of sin is death...” (Romans 6:23 NLT).

“Don’t be misled – you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant” (Galatians 6:7 NLT).

3. FOR BARABBAS, A SUBSTITUTE WAS MADE

“That is why I came, to go through this hour of suffering. Father, bring glory to Your name!” (John 12:27-28 TEV).

“(Christ) personally carried our sins in His body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By His wounds you are healed” (1 Peter 2:24 NLT).

“(Christ) is the One who took God’s wrath against our sins upon Himself, and brought us into fellowship with God; and He is the forgiveness for our sins, and not only ours but all the world’s” (1 John 2:2 LB).

4. BARABBAS WAS SET FREE

“Freedom is what we have – Christ has set us free!” (Galatians 5:1 TEV).

“If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36 NIV).

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16 NIV).

MY RESPONSE

“Surely, He was (is) the Son of God!” (Matthew 27:54 NIV).

“My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28 NIV).

“If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved” (Romans 10:9-10 NIV)