A SOLDIER’S STORY
MARK 15:39, 44-45 / 1:8-18 / WED

I. WHO WAS HE?

A. report that Rome’s normal practice was to station a Legion of 5,000 soldiers in a country under their control.

B. A Centurion was a non-commissioned officer similar to something like a sergeant-major.

C. There are three other Centurions mentioned in the N.T.
   1. One from Capernaum who had a sick servant—Mat. 8:5-10.
   3. One who took Paul to Rome while under arrest—Acts 27:1, 42-44.

II. WHAT DID HE SAY?

A. The Synoptics record his words.

B. What did the Centurion mean by what he said?
   1. The Greek text of both Matthew and Mark’s statement does not have the definite article “the”. Instead it literally reads “a” son of God.
   2. So perhaps this Centurion was just saying that Jesus was a godly man not the Son of God.
   3. As much as we would like to think this Centurion said Jesus was “the” Son of God, unfortunately, he didn’t.

C. There have been many unsubstantiated stories about this Centurion.

D. What happened that might have caused this Centurion to say what he did about Jesus—Matt. 27:45 and Matt. 27:50-51 and 54.