

# CROSSROAD



## From Praise to Passion

A six week journey for the season of Lent  
2022

## **Week #6**

**Mark 15; Matthew 27:11ff; Luke 23; John 18:27-19ff**

### **“Passover Lamb is Silenced”**

**Scripture Stories:** Jesus is tried before Pilate, sentenced to death, crucified, and buried.

**Focus Scripture:** John 19:30 "When Jesus had tasted it, he said, 'It is finished!' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

**Overview:** In last week's readings we witnessed Jesus' arrest and "trial" before the religious leaders. This week's lesson will focus on Jesus' trial before Pilate, torture and death, and burial. Our aim is to experience God's love and forgiveness in the sacrifice of Jesus.

**ROMAN CRUCIFIXION:** Without becoming gruesome, we can only imagine the pain and torture, but there were also rules. Only Romans could execute someone this way. The Jewish people under Roman occupation weren't allowed to do so. They could stone people, but not execute by crucifixion, which gives a bit of insight into the religious leaders' mindset. Secondly, crucifixions were not done on a hill. They were done along a well-travelled road for all to witness. Besides the agonizing death by asphyxiation, criminals were stripped naked and most likely tortured prior to hanging on the cross. Thirdly, the posts on which the cross bar was laid were permanent structures along the road, so Jesus was most likely made to carry the cross post.

### **CULTURAL AND/OR HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

It is significant that this is all happening during Passover. The entire Passover liturgy points to our deliverance from bondage of sin through the body and blood of Jesus, the lamb. The Passover was a grand celebration and feast. It was the high holiday of the year. The exact timing of those two days, Thursday and Friday, is uncertain, as Jesus celebrated

