



Empowering People to Change the World

The Killing of Jesus Act 2

Steve Holt

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Act 2

- We are with Jesus in his final days and looking at different characters and different situations: Mary of Bethany pouring an expensive perfume upon the head of Jesus
- Mary, we have seen her three times, at the feet of Jesus listening to him, at the death of her brother Lazarus, and now understanding that Jesus is about to be killed and she worships him—she pours out possibly her dowry, worth a years wages
- In contrast to Mary is Judas, the first words we have of Judas, who on the one hand will exhort Mary for the expense of the spikenard because this could have been used for the poor and then he turns around that very day and betrays Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.
- The others chime in. It's amazing what a crowd can agree to; they are agreeing with Judas
- They take the last supper together

Vs. 27

Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written:

*'I will strike the Shepherd,
And the sheep will be scattered.'*

"But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble, yet I *will not be.*"

- Peter is arguing with Scripture, with Zechariah

- We have all done this—proclaiming our allegiance
- But when the troubles come, when the soldiers come, we will see a coward
- This guy will be transformed when he is filled with the Holy Spirit
- How much all of us need a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit! Be being filled—not a title but the condition of our heart

30 Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.”

But he spoke more vehemently, “If I have to die with You, I will not deny You!”

And they all said likewise.

- Peter will deny Jesus 3x. But that is not the failure of faith. Peter will repent and be restored

Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed.

- Gethsamane means “oil press”, was an olive orchard on the Mt of Olives
- Some of the Olive tree’s in present day Gethsemane are of the oldest known to science
- “deeply distressed”—>displaced, away from home, out of place is the meaning

- This the great exchange of cups. He had given them the cup of fellowship at the Last Supper, but now he will take the cup of condemnation
- He feels out of place, far from home, unfamiliar for Jesus

Vs. 34

Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.” He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”

- Abba—daddy. In Israel they will say “abba” to the father as they play
- The depth, the personality of Jesus is found here!
- Jesus crying out—imagine the Son of God exceedingly sorrowful, human emotion. “Father, all things are possible, take away this cup from me”
- Jesus is receiving the cup of God’s wrath!

Ps 75

***For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup,
And the wine is red;
It is fully mixed, and He pours it out;
Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth
Drain and drink down.¹***

- **Jeremiah: *For thus says the LORD God of Israel to me: “Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it. And they will drink***

¹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Ps 75:8). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them.”²

- Revelation, and the 3rd angel: *Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation.”³*

“Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”

- Jesus prays that this cup might pass. The brutality he would endure was unimaginable! The Passion of the Christ captures this torture, but the wrath of God falling upon Him!!
- Father, you can change this! But not my will but yours be done

Vs. 37

Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour?”

- Couldn't you just handle a little prayer for one hour?
- What might have changed if these men had been willing to pray for one hour? I don't know but I do wonder...what about an hour of prayer in our lives?

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Je 25:15–16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

³ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Re 14:9–10). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Watch and pray! Like watchmen on the wall. Watch and pray, be alert and ready. But how often our spirit boasts many things but our flesh takes over

Again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words. And when He returned, He found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him.

Then He came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.

- Three times he comes
- The three stooges—just sleep on
- Imagine Jesus looking over them: James, he'll be dead in a month. I wonder if he prayed for his family; Peter, he will deny me. John, the son of thunder. He could see the island of Patmos decades from now, what plans you have for them
- How often does he watch over us when we go to bed with a troubled heart. How often is he watching and praying over us

Vs. 42

Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him and lead Him away safely."

- Jesus looks just like anyone else. He doesn't glow! Judas must kiss him to identify him

Vs. 45

As soon as he had come, immediately he went up to Him and said to Him, "Rabbi, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

Then they laid their hands on Him and took Him. And one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.⁴

- Peter's got a sword. Peter is ready for action! He heard the words of Jesus at supper and gets a sword—he's in the garden as Jesus' body guard, ready for action
- John depicts this scene...they come looking for Jesus...

They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am *He*."

And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. 6

Now when He said to them, "I am *He*," they drew back and fell to the ground. (He is italicized, meaning it was missing. Jesus says "Ego emai" → I am.)

7 Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am *He*. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none."

Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. (no record in history but this one—none of us are ever unnoticed by God!)

So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

⁴ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 14:45–47). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- “I am” and they all fell down when Jesus identified himself. Now he wacks off Malchus ear. Luke says that Jesus took the ear and healed him—quite a convert!
- It’s a good thing that Peter just woke up, he wasn’t trying to get just an ear, he would have gotten a head. Now that would be quite a miracle. Luke would have definitely impressed, put the head back on
- Peter had been at the Transfiguration and I think he’s expecting something powerful to happen here!

Vs. 48

Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”

Then they all forsook Him and fled.

Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around *his* naked *body*. And the young men laid hold of him, and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.⁵

- Most scholars believe the naked guy was probably Mark—autobiographical made quite a mark on his life—the first streaker!

Vs. 53

And they led Jesus away

- You’re always in trouble when you are leading Jesus!

⁵ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 14:48–52). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

And they led Jesus away to the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes.

- He goes to Annas, the son in law of Caiphas the High Priest. Appointee of the Romans. There were two high priests functioning in that position
- The Sanhedrin was a 71 man Jewish Supreme Court. Basically this is an illegal gathering. Illegal to pass a death sentence at night and in less than one day. Illegal tribunal.

But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire.

- Hard to do. Follow Jesus afar off? Sometimes we get overconfident, prideful, sleeping when we should be praying, hacking someone's ear off
- Peter got into the courtyard—maybe John's parents had connections, came from wealth
- Sometimes we find ourselves warming ourselves at the enemies fire! Never works

Vs. 55

Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none.

- The Romans have the right of the sword and the Jews don't have that right
- They must come up with civil charges—sedition, revolution—they need some accusations and they found none

Vs. 56

For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.' "

- Jesus, speaking of his own body, said "destroy this Temple" not "I will destroy this Temple" false witness, misquoting him

Vs. 59

But not even then did their testimony agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is *it* these men testify against You?"

- Caiphas finally stands up and takes charge—he's had enough. "What is it; what did you do?? Make it clear!!"
- Jesus doesn't say anything

Vs. 61

But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."⁶

- The Jews wouldn't say the name of Jehovah, but would say blessed. Caiphas is such a hypocrite
- Ego emai → I am.

⁶ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 14:61–62). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Jesus is quoting Dan 7
- I'm Jehovah God, I am the Son of Man! next time you see me, I will come in power...
- High Priest tore his clothes!

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?"

And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.

Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, "Prophecy!" And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.⁷

- Some spit on Jehovah God!
- Jesus knows who did it
- He is bearing under all of this

Now as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came. And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with Jesus of Nazareth."

But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are saying." And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed.⁸

- Peter ignores the rooster
- Jesus is getting beaten—he could have chosen to send his angels to take everyone out

⁷ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 14:63–65). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

⁸ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mk 14:66–68). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- Jesus is praying for Peter
- Satan is sifting Peter but his faith will not fail. Jesus is praying for his faith to survive

Vs. 69-70

And the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by, "This is one of them." But he denied it again.

And a little later those who stood by said to Peter again, "Surely you are *one* of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows *it*."

- The accusation is getting stronger, in John's gospel it's a relative of the guy who's ear got chopped off
- They recognize his accent "ya'll" slurs his speech

Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!"

- "I'll be damned!" Is what it literally means. They must be thinking, he can't be one of them
- He is pronouncing a curse on himself

A second time *the* rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And when he thought about it, he wept.

- Luke 22, Jesus looked at him and they made eye contact
- What do you think that was like?
- We don't know what Peter did for the next few days. They all fled

- At the resurrection morning, in chapter 16:7 go tell Peter

Have you denied Jesus in your life?

Is Jesus looking at you? With compassion he's looking at you

There will always be a second chance

John 21:15ff

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. ⁹

Peter would later write,

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Peter will stand before the people of Israel and preach with boldness—filled with the Holy Spirit

You can't do the work of God without the God of the work!

Wait until you are filled with the Holy Spirit—the last words of Jesus to us. He said "Go" in the Greek, having gone, Luke says

⁹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Jn 21:15–17). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

wait, Acts says wait. 59x in Acts, the Holy Spirit is mentioned. No matter what your natural ability is, no matter how much training you have, it is insufficient until it is ignited by the Holy Spirit. They sat under The Master and He told them to wait. Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, 3000 come to Christ!

Defeated and broken that night, denying Christ, and later transformed!