

**Matt. 27:27-31:** Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, & they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup> & they stripped him & put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> & twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head & put a reed in his right hand. & kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup> & they spit on him & took the reed & struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup> & when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe & put his own clothes on him & led him away to crucify him.

**Intro:** Last week, we saw Jesus stand trial before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Jesus is on the way to the cross! Jesus is King; Jesus fulfills prophecy; men are wicked; Jesus is our substitute; Jesus is righteous; Jesus was unjustly condemned, scourged, & crucified: Righteous King Jesus is the Yes & Amen to all God's promises, & He was crucified as a substitute to save sinners! Today, we see Jesus stripped, mocked, & led away to die. **D. A. Carson:** The Jews had mocked Jesus as the Messiah. Now the Romans mock Jesus as King. **[But He is both!]**

Jesus was stripped so that you'll be clothed, mocked so that you'll be glorified, crucified so that you'll live forever!

### **1. Jesus Was Stripped So That You Might Be Clothed Forever**

**Matt. 27:27-31:** the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, & they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup> & they stripped him . . . <sup>31</sup> & when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe

**a. Jesus had just been scourged: Matt. 27:26:** Then he released for them Barabbas, & having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

**b. Jesus was crucified naked or close to it: Matt. 27:35:** when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

**c. A Biblical theology of clothing: 1) Sin Made Clothes Necessary:** Because of sin, nakedness was associated with shame, sin, & God's curse, so clothing became necessary.

**a) Adam & Eve were created in God's image, without sin, & without clothes: Gen. 1:26-27:** Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. & let them have dominion over the fish of the sea & over the birds of the heavens & over the livestock & over all the earth & over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male & female he created them.

- **Gen. 2:24-25:** Therefore a man shall leave his father & his mother & hold fast to his wife, & they shall become one flesh. & the man & his wife were both naked & were not ashamed.

**b) Adam & Eve sinned, bringing death & shame into the world: Gen. 3:6-7:** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, & that it was a delight to the eyes, & that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit & ate, & she also gave some to her husband who was with her, & he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, & they knew that they were naked. & they sewed fig leaves together & made themselves loincloths.

**c) In God's law & prophets, a lack of clothing was a sign of God's curse on sinners: Deut. 28:47-48:** Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joyfulness & gladness of heart, because of the abundance of all things, <sup>48</sup> therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger & thirst, **in nakedness**, & lacking everything; **Nahum 3:5:** I will make nations look at your **nakedness** & kingdoms at your shame.

- **NT: Demon possessed man: Lk. 8:** For a long time he had worn no clothes; **Then:** clothed & in his right mind

**d) Nakedness became a way of describing sinners: Rev. 3:16-17:** because you are lukewarm, & neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, & I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, & **naked**.

**e) Everyone is a poor, blind, naked sinner & needs to be clothed (saved!): Rom. 3:23:** for all have sinned & fall short of the glory of God

## 2) Jesus Is The Seamster & The Suit Who Sews Salvation:

### a) God kept telling His people they would need to be further clothed throughout the Old Testament:

- **Gen. 3:21:** the LORD God made for Adam & for his wife garments of skins & clothed them.
- **Ezek. 16:4-8:** as for your birth, on the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in swaddling cloths. No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you out of compassion for you, but you were cast out on the open field, for you were abhorred, on the day that you were born. & when I passed by you & saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' I made you flourish like a plant of the field. & you grew up and became tall & arrived at full adornment. Your breasts were formed, & your hair had grown; yet you were naked & bare. When I passed by you again & saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, & I spread the corner of my garment over you & covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you & entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, & you became mine.
- **Zech. 3:3-4:** Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. & the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." & to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, & I will clothe you with pure vestments."

**b) We can get our pure vestments & clothing only through the cross of the LORD Jesus Christ!:** Jesus was stripped naked & suffered the wrath & curse of God on that cross & rose again so that we might be clothed with the garments of salvation!

### c) By grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, you can be clothed with the garments of salvation:

- **Rom. 4:4-5:** Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. & to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness
- **Isa. 61:10:** I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness
- **Rom. 4:6-7:** just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, & whose sins are covered . . . ."
- **Gal. 3:27:** For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- **Rev. 7:14:** They have washed their robes & made them white in the blood of the Lamb. **GOSPEL!**

**d) Now, those who are clothed in Jesus Christ by faith alone, they will obey Jesus & be zealous for good works: Rev. 19:7-8:** Let us rejoice & exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, & his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure" - for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

**e) In Christ Jesus, you can be fully & truly known by God AND fully & truly loved by God:** We all want to be fully & truly known AND fully & truly loved (Keller).

**Romans 8:35, 37-39:** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? . . . No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus was stripped so that you'll be clothed, mocked so that you'll be glorified, crucified so that you'll live forever!

Christ Was Stripped Down Naked Bare; And Men Would Spit And Mock And Glare; For Our Great Shame He'd Take And Wear; Then Rise To Righteousness Declare; And Give Us Clothes That End Despair; With Him There's None Who Can Compare!

Disciples must leave all behind  
To follow Christ as He designed  
He's the greatest of mankind  
To human flesh He's been assigned  
He raised the dead and healed the blind  
The devil strong man He would bind  
They beat and spit and mock combined  
And treat Him like the wheat to grind  
But He rose up and death confined  
Now death is dead to hell consigned  
Jesus lives to save mankind  
He left our sin and shame behind  
So to Him run – salvation find  
He is worthy and enshrined  
As the greatest heart and mind  
Leave all behind, in Him you'll find  
All joy, all peace, all love combined!

Nakedness means sin and shame  
That, in Adam we became  
He ate the fruit and in sin came  
The world would never be the same  
He fled from God for his own fame  
God cut him off with sword aflame  
But God would save for His great name  
To cover man was His new aim  
He gave a hint with skins of game  
But man would need a better claim  
A God-Man Savior not so tame  
He lived and died and overcame  
Took upon Him all our blame  
His body they'd maim and try to tame  
But you can't tame the greatest name  
He conquered death to life reclaim  
And now we'll never be the same  
He covers us and takes our shame  
We're clothed in righteous robes acclaim  
His righteousness in Him became  
Over us God does exclaim:  
“My righteous children whom I’ll claim!”  
We'll give all honor to His name  
And when poor sinners come in shame  
Deep love for them will be our aim!

## **2. Jesus Was Mocked So That You Might Be Glorified Forever**

**Matt. 27:28-31:** they stripped him & put a scarlet robe on him, & twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head & put a reed in his right hand. & kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" & they spit on him & took the reed & struck him on the head. & when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe

**a. Jesus was mocked with a scarlet robe:** Scarlet/Purple was an expensive dye color – points to royalty. They mocked Jesus & made fun of Him as a king. But oh He is a King! **Jesus endured all this because He loves you!**

**b. Jesus was mocked with a crown of thorns: James Stalker:** When Adam & Eve were driven from the garden into the bleak & toilsome world, their doom was that the ground should bring forth to them thorns & thistles. Thorns were the sign of the curse; that is, of their banishment from God's presence & of all the sad & painful consequences following therefrom . . . In a word, it symbolizes the curse; & as He lifted it on His own head, He took it off the world. He bore our sins & carried our sorrows.

**Hymn:** Who defeats my fiercest foes? Who consoles my saddest woes? Who revives my fainting heart, Healing all its hidden smart? Jesus crowned with thorns!

Jesus went through all of this for you! **Gal. 2:20:** He loved me & gave Himself for me!

**c. Jesus was mocked with a reed in hand:** Like the scepter of a king – a symbol of sovereignty & authority

**d. Jesus was mocked with kneeling & shouts of royalty: V. 29:** kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

**Ps. 22:6-7:** But I am a worm & not a man, scorned by mankind & despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads **[Jesus endured all this for you! Because He loves you!]**

**e. Jesus was mocked with spit & beatings on His head: V. 30:** they spit on him & took the reed & struck him on the head. [Jesus made everything they mocked Him with: clothing; thorns; wood; bodies; spit; voices; hands!]

- **Isa. 50:6:** I gave my back to those who strike, & my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

- **Isa. 52:14:** As many were astonished at you – His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, & His form beyond that of the children of mankind

- **Phil. 2:7-11:** but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. & being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him & bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven & on earth & under the earth, & every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**f. We see what our sin has done! Spurgeon:** May God make sin as contemptible in our sight as Christ appeared to be to the Roman soldiers!

Yes! May we spit in sin's face; may we strike it on the head; may we put a crown of thorns on it; may we scourge it until the flesh comes off & its insides spill out; may we crucify it without mercy & rejoice at its bloody, horrific death forever! & it won't rise again! Since Jesus endured all this for us, & was made sin for us! Oh how He loves you!

**g. Jesus is King over all this! Mk. 10:34:** they will mock him & spit on him, & flog him & kill him. & after three days he will rise.

- **Sinclair Ferguson:** Even in the hour of His deepest humiliation, He was reigning as King.

**h. Jesus was King over His spirit too: Prov. 16:32:** Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, & he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

- **James 3:7-8:** For every kind of beast & bird, of reptile & sea creature, can be tamed & has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

**i. Remember Jesus' beautiful example: Hymn:** He with unflinching heart; Bore all disgrace and shame; And mid the keenest smart (sharp pain); Loved on, yes Loved the same!

Remember He endured all this for you! Remember how He loves you Christian!

May we remember never to treat Christ this way! May we be resolved to never treat Christ this way!

**Spurgeon:** “But,” some of you say, “we have never treated Christ like that!” Listen, Sirs, there are some of you in this house who are quite indifferent to the Lord Jesus Christ. You pay some outward [respect] to religious worship, but you have never given your hearts to Christ. You have never spent even an hour in your whole lives in seriously meditating upon His blessed Person & His glorious work. You are not in a right state of heart to speak to His praise & glory, neither can you do anything to extend His cause & Kingdom in the earth. It is true that you do not blaspheme Him – you are not openly in opposition to Him, but you are just indifferent. Can there be anything much worse than indifference to the Lord Jesus Christ? He is so loving & gentle, & so tender of heart that to be indifferent to Him is to cut Him to the quick! Oh, had He been indifferent to us – when there was no other eye to pity us & no other arm to save us – if He had been indifferent to us, then, instead of meeting in this place tonight to hear of Him, we would, all of us, have been in Hell! But He was not indifferent to us, so let none of us be so cruel as to be indifferent to Him . . . I think such a text as this ought to stir up all of us who love the Lord to be doing something for Christ that will demand self-denial . . . But I would ask each one of you whether you cannot do something for Jesus which you have never done before. Make some sacrifice, wear a crown of thorns – I mean spiritually – for His sake. Go a step farther than you have ever gone before, plunge deeper into the waters of consecration, give yourselves up to Christ more completely from this night forward!

**j. Jesus was mocked so that you might be glorified forever: Rom. 8:29-30:** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son . . . & those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. [777 engine on a tricycle]

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### **3. Jesus Was Crucified So That You Might Live Forever**

**Matt. 27:31:** when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe & put his own clothes on him & led him away to crucify him.

The circumstances of Jesus' death are so different from all of the other founders of world religions: **Mark Dever:** Confucius died at age 72 or 73. Respected even revered . . . it seems [Buddha] died respected & revered, celebrated even in his 80's – surrounded by his disciples. & Muhammad died at age 63 in Medina with his head being cradled in the lap of Aisha, the favorite of his 11 wives. Buddha, Confucius, Muhammad, all of them died as old men in the midst of communities which respected, even revered them. & then there's Jesus . . . **[Christ died! Christ is risen!]**

Jesus was stripped so that you'll be clothed, mocked so that you'll be glorified, crucified so that you'll live forever!

Jesus Was Severely Mocked; And On His Head They Spit And Knocked; By Death Our Lowly King Was Rocked;  
But In Three Days They'll All Be Shocked; He Rose And Heaven's Gates Unlocked!

To mock they clothed Him like a king  
Vile insults at our King they fling  
The words are piercing deep with sting  
They treat Him like the unclean thing  
But only good from Him will spring  
To the Just One He would cling  
And take the worst that they could sling  
Then die so to Him we could sing  
All praise and glory to our King  
Who rose to end death's bitter sting

All thanks and honor to Him bring!

They clothed Him in a purple cloak  
To make His royalty a joke  
With spit His face and beard they'd soak  
They tried to provoke  
All His dignity revoke  
And leave His spirit broke  
And all His hope choke  
By the wicked words they spoke  
But in all this He was not broke  
But stood like a mighty, unshakable oak  
He took their joke & bore the yoke  
To die and rise to give us hope!

They put on Him a thorny crown  
And laughed and jeered like He's a clown  
Though He's the greatest Man around  
They'd mock and curse and put Him down  
He'd even face His Father's frown  
And in His wrath He'd finally drown  
Then rise so we could have a crown!

They drenched His head with phlegm and spit  
And all vile words that tongues emit  
Even on His head they hit  
And though they all should Him acquit  
For nothing bad did He commit  
To all His Father's will submit  
Not one Word or jot omit  
To do what's right He never quit  
And died the temple curtain split  
So He with God would with us knit  
And in His presence we would sit  
Where joy and pleasures keep us lit  
All because He took our hit  
Oh He's the best we must admit!

Christ Jesus Bore Man's Spit And Shame  
Stripped Him Down And Mocked Defame  
A Crown Of Thorns His Head Would Maim  
A Reed In Hand "The King!" Exclaim  
His Head They Struck And Mocked The Same  
But Then Far Worse Than All This Shame  
For All Our Sin He Took The Blame  
Our Sin, The God-Man, He Became

God Judged His Son With Wrath Inflamm  
Christ Died For Sinners Was God's Aim  
Then From The Tomb He Rose And Came  
To Save By Faith Alone The Lame  
Hell, Death, Sin, Satan He Overcame  
All For The Fame Of God's Great Name  
His Praise Forever Now Proclaim  
For Christ Has Conquered All Our Shame!