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ONE Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 2

[ONE Excerpt: Way of the Cross](#)

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ONE Excerpt: Conviction, Way of the Cross, Crucifixion and Burial

In the last [Newsletter Vol. 1.1](#), on the subject of [oaths and affirmations](#), I presented a somewhat deepened reflective analysis of oaths and Jesus' teaching in that regard.

In this issue, and in this **Lenten Season**, we reflect on the circumstances of Jesus' death. I present the reflection in this issue a bit differently, and, possibly, a bit more simply: I have pulled an **excerpt from ONE** from the point of **Pilate's last statements** through the circumstances of the **guard at Jesus' tomb**.

In addition, for the purpose of reflection, I have colorized the text to assist you in the study of the unified text. The "**Way of the Cross**" and **crucifixion** are particularly excellent examples of the unified text to focus the reflection. Even many Christians do not realize that the circumstances of the crucifixion are told only partially in each of the four Gospels.

Also, as I discuss in my [online weblog \(blog\)](#), the unified text focuses our reflection by clearly demonstrating the fascinating fact that certain stories, **such as Veronica's Veil** and **Jesus falling three times** (contained in many "**Stations of the Cross**"), are **not found** in the text of the scriptures.

The following excerpt from [ONE](#) contains the entire unabridged unified text for your reflection and study. I have also provided the Unification Index for your reference. The Unification Index shows you the source of the unified text for reflection back to each of the four Gospels.

Legend:

(Some printers and computer screens will not show the distinctions in all colors unless printed in "Best" mode or resolution.)

- **Matthew Only** (custom/purple)
- **Mark Only** (green)
- **Luke Only** (red)
- **John Only** (blue)
- **Matthew and Mark Only** (fuchsia)
- **Matthew and Luke Only** (maroon)
- **Mark and Luke Only** (custom/blue)
- **Mark and John Only** (custom/red)
- **Matthew, Mark and John Only** (gray)
- **Matthew, Mark and Luke Only (the "Synoptic Gospels")** (teal)
- **All Gospels** (black)

ONE

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ONE Excerpt:

Chapter XIV. Betrayal, Arrest and Trial

Pilate²⁷⁴¹ said to them, “Then what do you want me to do with the man you call the ‘King of the Jews’?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!”

²⁷⁴² Again Pilate addressed them, still wishing to release Jesus, he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” ²⁷⁴³ They only shouted the louder, “Let him be crucified! Crucify him! Crucify him!”

²⁷⁴⁴ **Pilate addressed them a third time, “What evil has this man done? I found him guilty of no capital crime. ²⁷⁴⁵ Therefore, I shall have him flogged and then release him.”**

SCOURGING OF JESUS. ²⁷⁴⁶ Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.

²⁷⁴⁷ The soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head; they stripped off his clothes, wrapped him in a scarlet military cloak, ²⁷⁴⁸ and they came to him and said, “Hail, ‘King of the Jews!’” **And, they struck him repeatedly.**

²⁷⁴⁹ **Once more Pilate went out and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you, so that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” ²⁷⁵⁰ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the scarlet robe.**

And he said to them, "Behold, the man!"

²⁷⁵¹ When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him. I find no guilt in him."

²⁷⁵² The Jews answered, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God."

²⁷⁵³ Now when Pilate heard this statement, he became even more afraid, ²⁷⁵⁴ and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" Jesus did not answer him.

²⁷⁵⁵ So Pilate said to him, "Do you not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?"

²⁷⁵⁶ Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it had not been given to you from above. Therefore, the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin."

PILATE'S CAPITULATION TO THE WORLD. ²⁷⁵⁷ From then, Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release him, you are not a friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar."

²⁷⁵⁸ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and seated him on the judge's bench in the place called "Stone Pavement," in Hebrew, "Gabbatha."

THE CROWD'S CAPITULATION TO THE WORLD. ²⁷⁵⁹ It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon.

And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your king!"

²⁷⁶⁰ They cried out, "Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your king?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

²⁷⁶¹ When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all, but that a riot was breaking out instead, he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood. Look to it yourselves."

²⁷⁶² With loud shouts, however, they persisted in calling for his crucifixion, and their voices prevailed. And the whole people said in reply, "His blood be upon us and upon our children."

²⁷⁶³ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, his verdict was that their demand should be granted. Then he released Barabbas to them, the man who had been imprisoned for rebellion and murder, for whom they asked. But it was after he had Jesus scourged that he handed him over to them to deal with as they wished and to be crucified.

MOCKERY BY SOLDIERS. ²⁷⁶⁴ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus away inside the palace, that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort around him.

^{2765/2766} They put a reed in his right hand, and kneeling before him, they mocked him, to salute him saying, "Hail, 'King of the Jews!'"

²⁷⁶⁷ They kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him. They knelt before him in homage.

²⁷⁶⁸ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the scarlet cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him.

²⁷⁶⁹ So they took Jesus, ²⁷⁷⁰ and, carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called the “Place of the Skull,” in Hebrew, Golgotha.

ONE Excerpt: Chapter XV. Crucifixion and Death

WAY OF THE CROSS. ²⁷⁷¹ As they pressed him on, they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country. They laid the cross on him, and pressed him into service making him carry it behind Jesus.

²⁷⁷² A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented him. ²⁷⁷³ Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep instead for yourselves and for your children. ²⁷⁷⁴ Indeed, the days are coming when people will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.’

²⁷⁷⁵ “At that time people will say to the mountains, ‘Fall upon us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ ²⁷⁷⁶ For if these things are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

²⁷⁷⁷ Two others, both criminals, were led away with him to be executed.

THE CRUCIFIXION; FATHER FORGIVE THEM. ²⁷⁷⁸ And when they came to a place called “Golgotha” (which means “Place of the Skull”), ²⁷⁷⁹ they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with myrrh and gall. But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink.

²⁷⁸⁰ It was nine o’clock in the morning when they had placed him onto the cross. ²⁷⁸¹ After being placed on the cross, ²⁷⁸² Jesus said:

“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”

²⁷⁸³ Then, the soldiers took his clothes and divided them into four shares, one share for each. They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down, so ²⁷⁸⁴ they divided his garments by casting lots for them to see what each should take. ²⁷⁸⁵ They said to one another, “Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be,” in order that the passage of scripture might be fulfilled:

They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.

So that is what the soldiers did. ²⁷⁸⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there.

²⁷⁸⁷ Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross and placed over his head, it read, “Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.” ²⁷⁸⁸ Now, many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. It was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. ²⁷⁸⁹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’” ²⁷⁹⁰ Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

²⁷⁹¹ He was crucified with the two revolutionaries, one on his right and the other on his left.

2792 The people stood by and watched, and those passing by reviled him shaking their heads, and ²⁷⁹³ **the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at him** ²⁷⁹⁴ saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself. If you are the chosen one, the Messiah of God, come down from the cross!”

2795 Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him among themselves and said,
2796 “He saved others but cannot save himself. So, he is the king of Israel! Let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. ²⁷⁹⁷ He trusted in God. Let him deliver him now if he wants him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

2798 Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine ²⁷⁹⁹ they called out, “If you are ‘King of the Jews,’ save yourself.”

2800 There they crucified him, and with him the two others, one on each side, with Jesus in the middle.
2801 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “And he was counted among the wicked.”

2802 One of the revolutionaries who was crucified with him also kept abusing him in the same way. ²⁸⁰³ He reviled Jesus, saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.”

2804 The other, however, contradicting him, said in reply, “Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same judgment? ²⁸⁰⁵ We have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal.” ²⁸⁰⁶ Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

2807 Jesus replied to him, “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

DEATH OF JESUS. ²⁸⁰⁸ It was now about noon and from noon onward, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon ²⁸⁰⁹ because of an eclipse of the sun.

2810 And about three o'clock, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

2811 Some of the bystanders who heard it said, “He is calling for Elijah.” ²⁸¹² But the rest said, “Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him and takes him down.”

2813 Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. ²⁸¹⁴ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.” ²⁸¹⁵ Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

2816 After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I thirst.”

2817 There was a vessel filled with common wine. ²⁸¹⁸ Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge. He soaked it in wine, put it on a reed and put it up to his mouth and gave it to him to drink.

2819 When Jesus had taken the wine, he cried out again in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” And, when he had said this, and bowing his head, he said, “It is finished.”

He breathed his last and handed over his spirit.

2820 And, behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split, ²⁸²¹ tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised.

²⁸²² **And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many.**

²⁸²³ **When the centurion who stood facing Jesus, and the others with him who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw how he breathed his last, and fearing greatly when they saw the earthquake and all that was happening, glorified God and they said, “This man was innocent beyond doubt. Truly this man was the Son of God!”**

²⁸²⁴ **When all the people who had gathered for this scene saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts,²⁸²⁵ but all his acquaintances stood at a distance.**

²⁸²⁶ **There were many women there, looking on these events from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him.²⁸²⁷ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and Joseph, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, and Salome.**

BLOOD AND WATER.²⁸²⁸ Now, since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath—for the Sabbath day of that week was a solemn one—the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down.

²⁸²⁹ **The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.²⁸³⁰ But, when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they did not break his legs.²⁸³¹ One soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.**

²⁸³² **An eyewitness testified to this, and his testimony is true. He knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may believe.²⁸³³ This happened so that the scripture passage might be fulfilled: “Not a bone of it will be broken.”²⁸³⁴ And again another passage says: “They will look upon him whom they have pierced.”**

ONE Excerpt Chapter XVI. Burial and Resurrection

BURIAL OF JESUS.²⁸³⁵ **Now there was a good and just man named “Joseph” who, although he was a distinguished member of the council,²⁸³⁶ had not consented to their actions regarding Jesus. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea and was awaiting the kingdom of God.²⁸³⁷ He was a rich man who was himself a disciple of Jesus secretly for fear of the Jews.**

²⁸³⁸ **It was already evening on the day of preparation—the day before the Sabbath—and the Sabbath was about to begin. So, Joseph straightly went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.**

²⁸³⁹ **Pilate was amazed that Jesus was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died.²⁸⁴⁰ And when he learned of it from the centurion, then Pilate ordered the body to be handed over to Joseph.**

²⁸⁴¹ **Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds.²⁸⁴² They took the body of Jesus down and having bought a linen cloth, bound it with clean burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom.**

²⁸⁴³ **Now, in the place where Jesus had been crucified, there was a garden, and, in the garden, Joseph**

had a new tomb that was hewn in the rock, in which no one had yet been buried. ²⁸⁴⁴ So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day, because the tomb was nearby.

²⁸⁴⁵ In addition, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, the mother of Joseph, remained sitting there, facing the tomb and watched where he was laid. ²⁸⁴⁶ They were with women who had come from Galilee with him following behind, and when they had seen the tomb and the way in which his body was laid in it, ²⁸⁴⁷ they returned and prepared spices and perfumed oils.

²⁸⁴⁸ When all were finished, a huge stone was rolled across the entrance to the tomb and departed.

^{2848.1} Following this, the women rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

GUARD AT THE TOMB. ²⁸⁴⁹ The next day, the one following the day of preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ²⁸⁵⁰ and said, “Sir, we remember that this fraud of a person, while still alive said, ‘After three days I will be raised up.’

²⁸⁵¹ “Give orders, then, that the grave can be secured until the third day, in order that his disciples not come and steal him, and then say to the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead.’ This last situation would be worse than the first.” ²⁸⁵² Pilate said to them, “You may have the guard and secure it as best you can.”

²⁸⁵³ So they went and secured the tomb by fixing a seal to the stone and setting the guard. ...

* * *

If you are new to the [ONE](#) Unification Index, the references within the [ONE](#) text are expanded in the table below (taken, in relevant part, from [ONE](#)).

For example, ONE: 2853 (cited immediately above) is from Matthew 27:66, because only the Gospel of Matthew contains that text; ONE: 2741 is taken from both Matthew 27:22 and Mark 15:12. Reflecting upon the text, we see that it is not until ONE: 2763 that the text that is taken from all four of the Gospels. In fact, it is the minority of text that can be derived from all four of the Gospels.

ONE Ref	Matthew (T)	Mark (R)	Luke (K)	John (J)		XIV. Betrayal, Arrest and Trial
2740						The People Choose Barabbas
2741	T27:22	R15:12			2741	
2742	T27:23	R15:14	L23:20		2742	
2743	T27:23	R15:13-14	L23:21		2743	
2744			L23:16;L23:22		2744	
2745			L23:16		2745	
2746				J19:1	2746	Scourging of Jesus
2747	T27:28-29	R15:17		J19:2	2747	
2748				J19:3	2748	
2749				J19:4	2749	
2750				J19:5	2750	
2751				J19:6	2751	
2752				J19:7	2752	
2753				J19:8	2753	
2754				J19:9	2754	
2755				J19:10	2755	
2756				J19:11	2756	
2757				J19:12	2757	Pilot's Capitulation to the World
2758				J19:13	2758	
2759				J19:14	2759	The Crowd's Capitulation to the World
2760				J19:15	2760	
2761	T27:24				2761	
2762	T27:25		L23:23		2762	

2763	T27:26	R15:15	L23:24-25	J19:16	2763	
2764	T27:27	R15:16			2764	Mockery by Soldiers
2765	T27:29	R15:18			2765	
2766	T27:29	R15:18			2766	
2767	T27:30	R15:19			2767	
2768	T27:31	R15:20			2768	
2769	T27:33	R15:22	L23:33	J19:16	2769	
2770				J19:17	2770	
						XV. Crucifixion and Death
2771	T27:32	R15:21	L23:26		2771	Way of the Cross
2772			L23:27		2772	
2773			L23:28		2773	
2774			L23:29		2774	
2775			L23:30		2775	
2776			L23:31		2776	
2777			L23:32		2777	
2778	T27:33	R15:22	L23:33	J19:16	2778	The Crucifixion
2779	T27:34	R15:23			2779	
2780		R15:25			2780	
2781	T27:35	R15:24	L23:34		2781	
2782			L23:34		2782	
2783				J19:23	2783	
2784	T27:35	R15:24	L23:34		2784	
2785				J19:24	2785	
2786	T27:36				2786	
2787	T27:37	R15:26	L23:38	J19:19	2787	
2788				J19:20	2788	
2789				J19:21	2789	
2790				J19:22	2790	
2791	T27:38		L23:33		2791	
2792	T27:39	R15:29	L23:35		2792	
2793			L23:35		2793	
2794	T27:40	R15:29-30	L23:35		2794	
2795	T27:41	R15:31	L23:35		2795	
2796	T27:42	R15:31-32	L23:35		2796	
2797	T27:43				2797	
2798			L23:36		2798	
2799			L23:37		2799	
2800		R15:27		J19:18	2800	
2801		R15:28			2801	
2802	T27:44	R15:32	L23:39		2802	
2803			L23:39		2803	
2804			L23:40		2804	
2805			L23:41		2805	
2806			L23:42		2806	
2807			L23:43		2807	
2808	T27:45	R15:33	L23:44		2808	Death of Jesus
2809			L23:45		2809	
2810	T27:46	R15:34			2810	
2811	T27:47	R15:35			2811	
2812	T27:49	R15:36			2812	
2813				J19:25	2813	
2814				J19:26	2814	
2815				J19:27	2815	
2816				J19:28	2816	
2817				J19:29	2817	
2818	T27:48	R15:36		J19:29	2818	
2819	T27:50	R15:37	L23:46	J19:30	2819	
2820	T27:51	R15:38	L23:45		2820	
2821	T27:52				2821	
2822	T27:53				2822	
2823	T27:54	R15:39	L23:47		2823	
2824			L23:48		2824	
2825			L23:49		2825	
2826	T27:55	R15:41	L23:49		2826	
2827	T27:56	R15:40			2827	
2828				J19:31	2828	Blood and Water
2829				J19:32	2829	
2830				J19:33	2830	
2831				J19:34	2831	
2832				J19:35	2832	
2833				J19:36	2833	
2834				J19:37	2834	
						XVI. Burial and Resurrection
2835		R15:43	L23:50		2835	Burial of Jesus
2836			L23:51		2836	
2837	T27:57	R15:43		J19:38	2837	
2838	T27:57-	R15:42-	L23:52;L23:54	J19:38	2838	

	58	43			
2839		R15:44		J19:38	2839
2840	T27:58	R15:45		J19:38	2840
2841				J19:39	2841
2842	T27:59	R15:46	L23:53	J19:40	2842
2843	T27:60	R15:46		J19:41	2843
2844				J19:42	2844
2845	T27:61	R15:47			2845
2846			L23:55		2846
2847			L23:56		2847
2848	T27:60	R15:46			2848
2848.1			L23:56		2848.1
2849	T27:62				2849 Guard at Tomb
2850	T27:63				2850
2851	T27:64				2851
2852	T27:65				2852
2853	T27:66				2853
2854					2854 Resurrection of Jesus

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At this time of reflection and renewal, please accept my warmest wishes for a joyous Easter Holiday!

Gregg Zegarelli

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- Gregg Zegarelli's Weblog is recently published and now [Online](#). [Click here](#). Gregg Zegarelli answers reader questions.

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