

CHAPTER TWO

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GOD'S WISDOM IS THE WISDOM OF THE CROSS.

(Contains the revelations of Mary of Agreda.)

Part 3 "Jesus brought before Pilate".

Jesus Meets His Mother the Second Time.

The Blessed Virgin remained outside of Herod's house and was not present when the priests advanced their insulting accusations. When Jesus came forth, Mary met Him and *They looked upon each other in sorrow.* The sight of the white vestment, by which they proclaimed Him as an insane fool, pierced Her heart with new sorrow. It must be said, She recognized the mystery of this vestment, that is, His purity and innocence. Mary adored Him with deepest reverence and followed Him through the streets back to the house of Pilate.

On the way from Herod to Pilate it happened, that on account of the crush of the people and on account of the haste and pulling of the ropes, they tripped Jesus up and threw Him on the ground several times. His hands being tied, He could not easily help Himself to rise from His falls. Therefore the crowds, who followed and who were neither able, nor cared to stop, stepped upon the Lord, treading Him under foot and kicking Him. Instead of stirring the compassion of the soldiers, this only excited them to loud laughter. You see, they had lost all

human compassion, and were like many wild beasts.

Jesus before Pilate the Second Time.

Pilate was again confronted with Jesus and was overwhelmed again by the Jews to condemn Jesus to death. However, Pilate was convinced of the innocence of Christ and the envy of the Jews. Pilate was much put out at Herod for returning Jesus back to him. Feeling himself obliged to give a decision, Pilate sought to satisfy the Jews in different ways. One of these was a private interview with some of the servants and friends of the high priests. He urged them to convince their masters and friends, not any more to ask for the release of Barabbas, but instead demand the release of Jesus of Nazareth; and be satisfied with some punishment he was willing to administer before setting Jesus free. This action Pilate had taken before Jesus arrived from Herod's court.

Pilate spoke to the Jews again and said: "You have brought this Man before me, accusing Him of disturbing the people with His doctrines; and having examined Him in your presence, I was not convinced of the truth of your accusations. And Herod, to whom I have sent Him and before whom you repeated

your accusations, refused to condemn Him to death. I have decided to correct and chastise Jesus of Nazareth at the present time. As I am to release some criminal at Passover, I will release Jesus". But the crowd, after hearing Pilate, shouted with one voice: "Enough, enough, not Jesus, but give us Barabbas".

Lk 23:13 Pilate then summoned the chief priests, the rulers, and the people

23:14 and said to them, "You brought this Man to me and accused Him of inciting the people to revolt. I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this Man guilty of the charges you have brought against Him,

23:15 nor did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. So no capital crime has been committed by Him.

23:16 Therefore I shall have Him flogged and then release Him."

23:18 But all together they shouted out, "Away with this Man! Release Barabbas to us."

23:19 (Now Barabbas had been imprisoned for a rebellion that had taken place in the city and for murder.)

23:20 Again Pilate addressed them, still wishing to release Jesus,

23:21 but they continued their shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

The custom of giving freedom to a criminal at Passover was introduced by the Jews in grateful remembrance of the release of their forefathers from the slavery in Egypt. In gratitude for this favor the Jews always searched for the greatest criminal and pardoned him for his crimes; while they refused such clemency to those who were less guilty.

In their treaties with the Romans they expressly reserved this privilege; and the governors complied with it. But the Jews in the present instance failed to follow this tradition. According to the law they were to demand the release of the greatest criminal and this they announced Jesus to be; yet they persisted in demanding the punishment of Jesus and the release of Barabbas, whom they judged less guilty. In such blindness, they lost the light of reason even in their own affairs.

Prv 17:15 *He who justifies the wicked* and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the LORD.

- 1) *"He who justifies the wicked"*. Men must recognize this fact, we will be held accountable for even those we vote for, like supporting those that support abortion. We will also be held accountable for unlawful marriages when we attend.

Prv 18:5 It is not good to be partial to a wicked man, or to deprive a righteous man of justice.

Mt 27:15 Now on the occasion of the feast (Passover) the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd one prisoner whom they wished.

27:16 And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called (Jesus) Barabbas.

27:17 So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them, "Which one do you want me to release to you, Barabbas, or Jesus called Messiah?"

^{27:20} The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus.

^{27:21} The governor said to them in reply, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” They answered, “Barabbas!”

^{27:22} Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus called Messiah?” They all said, “Let Him be crucified!”

^{27:23} But he said, “Why? What evil has He done?” They only shouted the louder, “Let Him be crucified!”

Pilate Is Warned By His Wife To Release Jesus.

While Pilate was disputing with the Jews, his wife, Procula, happened to hear of his doings and sent him a message telling him: “Have nothing to do with that righteous Man. Let Him go free. For I warn you that I have had this very day some visions in regard to Him”! This warning of Procula originated through the activity of Lucifer and his demons. For they, observing all that was happening in regard to the person of Jesus and the unchangeable patience with which He bore all injuries, were more and more confused and staggered in their furious anger. Although the swollen arrogance of Lucifer could not explain how His Divinity could subject Itself to such great insults, nor how He could permit His Body to suffer such injury, and although Lucifer couldn't come to any certain conclusion whether this Jesus was a God-man or not; yet the dragon was persuaded, that some great mystery was transpiring among men which would

be the cause of great damage and defeat to him. Having come to this conclusion with his demons, he many times suggested to the Pharisees to cease their persecutions of Christ. These suggestions, however, *since they originated from hate and were void of any power for good, failed to move the obstinate hearts of the Jews.* So Lucifer went to the wife of Pilate and spoke to her in dreams, representing to her that this Man was just and without guilt, that if her husband were to condemn Jesus, he would lose his rank and she herself would meet misfortune. Lucifer urged her to advise Pilate to release Jesus and punish Barabbas.

Obviously, Procula was now filled with great fear and terror after these visions. For as soon as she heard what was passing between the Jews and her husband, she sent him the message mentioned by Saint Matthew, not to meddle with this Man or condemn Him to death, whom she held to be just. The demons also gave similar misgivings into the mind of Pilate and these warnings of his wife only increased them. Yet, since Pilate was so often during life in habit of violating the Natural Law, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you”, his only consideration rested upon his self-centeredness. During life, Pilate failed to co-operate with the true helps given him by God. You see *it's hard to practice justice, when you're in the habit of practicing injustice.* Consequently, the only benefit all these fears produced was that it slowed his unjust proceedings.

Jer 13:23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin?
The leopard his spots? As easily would
you be able to do good, *accustomed to
evil as you are.*

Mt 27:19 While Pilate was still seated on the
bench, his wife sent him a message,
“Have nothing to do with that righteous
Man. I suffered much in a dream today
because of Him.”

Pilate Argues With The Jews A Third Time.

Pilate began for the third time to argue,
insisting upon the innocence of Jesus and
that he found no crime in Him or any
guilt worthy of death, and therefore he
would punish and then dismiss Him. But
the Jews, on the contrary, demanded that
Jesus be crucified.

Lk 23:22 Pilate addressed them a third time,
“What evil has this Man done? I found
Him guilty of no capital crime. Therefore
I shall have Him flogged and then release
Him.”

Words Of Wisdom From Our Holy Mother.

My daughter, (Speaking to Mary of
Agreda) I see you astonished to find, that
Pilate and Herod exhibited less
unkindness and cruelty in the death of
My Son than the Pharisees. In answer to
your thoughts I will remind you of a
doctrine not new. Know then that a fall
from the highest position is extremely
dangerous and the damage done is very
difficult to undo. Lucifer held a very high
position, as regards to both natural gifts

and gifts of grace. For in beauty he
excelled all, and by his sin he fell to the
deepest abyss, *more hardened than all
his followers.* The first parents, Adam
and Eve, were exalted to a very high
dignity. To restore them and the rest of
the human race was the work of an
infinite Mercy. Many other souls have
reached the heights of perfection and
have fallen most unfortunately, arriving
at a state in which they almost despaired
or found themselves incapable of rising.
For the sins of those souls who, by their
state or by their advanced virtues, are
weighed in the balance of God’s justice
in quite a different way from the sins of
those who have been less favored by His
Mercy. Although the sins of all are more
or less essentially the same, yet the
circumstances of sins are very different.
For the priests and teachers, they are
supposed to be advanced in a holy life,
thus they will cause great scandal by
their fall. For them, there is much more
of bold disrespect against God, whom
they know better and to whom they owe
much more, but whom they offend with
more deliberation and knowledge than
the ignorant. As the term of each man’s
life is preordained for each one as the
time in which he is to gain the eternal
reward, (A reason to live forever.) so the
measure or number of sins to be borne by
the patience of God is likewise
preordained. This measure of divine
justice is determined not only by the
number of sins, but also by their weight.
Thus, men with fewer sins are punished
more severely than others with many
more. Nor can all expect for themselves
the same mercy as Peter or the other
Apostles. Because not all of them have to

their credit as many good actions to be remembered by the Lord. **Remember that you carry your treasure in a fragile vessel, which you can easily lose.** God has favored you with much conversation and this is no assurance that you cannot fall, and no license to live carelessly without reverence and fear. Behold, all things happen to you according to the greatness of your blessings. **For the wrath of the serpent has increased toward you in proportion.** If you meet so many blessings and mercies with ingratitude, you shall be most wretched and worthy of a rigorous punishment, against which you can make no objection.

Brothers, for heaven to be heaven we must be surrounded by souls that care about our emotions. How can we create heaven for others if we do not care about their emotions? Listen to what I'm saying, when we sin, we are not recording the sorrows of others in our hearts.

Questions

- 1) The Mother of Jesus meets Her Son a second time out side _____ house on His way back to Pilate.
- 2) The crowds, who followed Jesus and who were neither able, nor cared to stop, stepped upon the fallen Lord, treading Him under foot and kicking Him. Instead of stirring the compassion of the soldiers, this only excited them to loud laughter. You see, they had lost all human compassion, and were like many wild _____.
- 3) Pilate was convinced of the innocence of Christ and the _____ of the Jews.
- 4) In gratitude for God releasing the Jews from Egypt at the Passover, the Jews always searched for the greatest criminal and _____ him for his crimes; while they refused such clemency to those who were less guilty.
- 5) The Jews had treaties with the Romans that allowed the release of a _____ at Passover time.
- 6) The Jews chose _____ to be released.
- 7) Who was responsible for the dream Pilate's wife had? In her dream she was told that this Man named Jesus was just and without guilt. If her husband were to condemn Jesus, he would lose his _____ and she herself would meet misfortune.
- 8) In the book of Jeremiah it says, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin? The leopard his _____? As easily would you be able to do good, **accustomed to _____ as you are.**
- 7) Pilate and Herod exhibited less unkindness and cruelty in the death of Jesus than the Pharisees. Know then that a fall from the highest position is extremely dangerous and the _____ done is very difficult to undo.

- 8) For the sins of those souls who, by their state or by their advanced virtues, are _____ in the balance of God's justice in quite a different way from the sins of those who have been _____ favored by His Mercy.

- 9) As the term of each man's life is preordained for each one as the time in which he is to gain the eternal reward, (A reason to live forever.) so the measure or number of sins to be borne by the _____ of God is likewise preordained. This measure of divine justice is determined not only by the number of _____, but also by their weight.