

Jesus, Man of Sorrows

*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. –
Isaiah 53:3*

Yesterday I thought, “I am having a really bad day.” Those thoughts paled as I read Matthew 27 and was reminded that Jesus paid a great price for me. Not just His crucifixion, but the precious Son of God was mistreated more than any of us could endure.

In Matthew 27, we see that leaders plotted against Him. One of His close associates sold Him out. Jesus went to trial and stood before the governor and was falsely accused by those he loved. Can you imagine His broken heart as He stood by silently? The pain and love were so severe that we can only in a minute way imagine His emotion at that time.

Instead of the innocent Son of God, the crowd chose to release a notorious prisoner. Even Pilate admitted that Jesus was a just person, but the crowd would not hear of releasing Him. They chanted “*Let Him be crucified.*” “*The governor said, ‘Why, what evil hath He done? But they cried out the more, saying let Him be crucified.’*”

The events that followed tear at our hearts. The loving Savior was scourged. The tearing of His flesh was just a part of the pain He was enduring; I believe His heart was breaking because of His great love for the very people who were cruelly torturing Him. The soldiers stripped him and mocked Him. They spit on Him, a despicable act inflicted on the one who was always kind, loving, and good.

“And they led Him away to be crucified.”