

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
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SERIES: Matthew (The King, His Kingdom And Me)

TITLE: Program 50 – He Endured All For You!

FRIDAY

OPEN

It well could have been a morning like this when the chief priests took Jesus from the House of Caiaphas and brought him to Pilate, the governor. They wanted him to declare Him guilty. They wanted him to put Him to death. And what lessons are there for you and me today in this event? O Beloved, you're going to be so surprised and I know that God has you listening to this program for a very special purpose.

PART ONE

It's morning here in Jerusalem and I'm standing on the Mount of Olives. Matthew 27 verse 1 tells us **"...When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death...."** (Matthew 27:1) They want to make this thing legal. Isn't it amazing what we do to justify our sin, to cover it up, or to excuse it? And so they had an illegal trial, now they're making it legal. This is why they wait

until morning. **“And they bound Him, and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor.” (Matthew 27:2)** As I said, when you look at the Temple Mount, when you see the golden dome behind me then you look to your right and when you see that green area there, there and over to the right more would be the area where Pilate would be, but remember the city was crowded during this time. It was “Pasach,” it was the Passover and all had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. So Pilate would be there with his Roman legions to quell any uprising that might happen during the feast. Now why did they lead Him to Pilate? I want us to look at John 18 verse 31 and this gives us insight into what they are doing. In John 18:31 and they’re talking about Jesus standing before Pilate. **“So Pilate said to them, ‘Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law.’ [And] the Jews said to him, ‘We are not permitted to put anyone to death.’” (John 18:31)** So they could do everything short. They could whip them up to 39 lashes. But they were not allowed to put them to death. And so we have them taking Him to Pilate because they want Pilate to enact their death sentence that they have already pronounced upon Jesus. In verse 3 of Matthew 27 it says, “[Now] **when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned...,**” saw that Jesus had been condemned, **“... he felt remorse and [he] returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and [the] elders, saying, ‘I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.’ But they said, ‘What is that to us? See to [it yourselves]!’” (Matthew 27:3-4)** Stop and realize what is going on. The priests were to be the ones, the mediator between men who had sinned and a God who was holy. And when they sin they were to bring a sin offering to the temple. And that sin offering, then, would be like a covering for their sins. And so you see them not being what they ought to be. They’re so consumed with getting rid of the competition, so consumed with getting rid of Jesus that when Judas comes and he feels remorse, he feels remorse because he realizes that he has betrayed innocent blood. And I just want you to know that this is an

enemy of God. In John chapter 6 Jesus tells us that He knew who was going to betray Him. It was one who had the devil—had the devil in him. And yet, knowing this, Jesus always treats him kindly, Jesus always treats him with respect. And here he is, knowing that Jesus is absolutely innocent. And all of a sudden, feeling this remorse, and coming to the priests and saying that [I have betrayed innocent blood, I have betrayed innocent blood. I have sinned, I have sinned.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 27:4) And I want you to see it is innocent blood. You see the only reason that a person could be put to death was if they had broken the Scriptures. And so now he is plotting the death of an innocent man—man. And he knows that that man's blood will be upon his head. It will be upon his hands. And so he says, **“I have sinned....’ But they [say], ‘What is that to us? See to that yourself!’ And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary....” (Matthew 27:4-5)** He takes those 30 pieces of silver. He walks over to the sanctuary itself, beyond the brazen altar into the sanctuary and he takes that silver and he slings it into there and then what does he do? It says, that **“...He went away and [he] hanged himself.” (Matthew 27:5)** He went out and he hanged himself. Now what is so sad here is that Judas has heard Jesus in these past three years say to men over and over and over again, [“your sins are forgiven.”] (PARAPHRASE, (Luke 5:20, Mark 2:9, etc.) [Your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more].” (PARAPHRASE, John 8:11) So he knows that Jesus has the power to give forgiveness of sins. In fact this is why the chief priests and the scribes and the Pharisees have contested Jesus because they say, [“Only God is able to forgive sins.”] (PARAPHRASE, Luke 5:21) So here is Judas who has betrayed Jesus, who is feeling remorse, who is feeling regret but does not repent. He does not repent. He does not have a change of mind about who Jesus is. He does not go to Jesus and say, “You are God, You are the Son of God and I have sinned against You and I’m asking You to forgive me.” O Beloved, O Beloved, this is so grave, this is so sad. It breaks my heart when I think of it. Now I know that he had the devil. I know that he

was going to do this. And yet I want you to understand something. I want you to understand that Judas could have been forgiven. 1 John chapter 2 and it's such an important verse, in 1 John chapter 2, in verses 1 and 2, it says, **"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins..."** you're not supposed to sin, but if anyone sins, **"...we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (1 John 2:1)** Judas had an advocate. He was there. **"And He Himself..."** Jesus, **"...is the propitiation for our sins..." (1 John 2:2)** He is the satisfaction, Beloved, for our sins and not for ours only. Not for our sins only but also for those of the whole world. Jesus was about to die for the whole world. Yes, He was going to be betrayed and woe to the man by whom He was betrayed. But he was going to die for every human being's sin from the beginning, Adam and Eve, all the way to the end. He is the Lamb of God and His blood is going to make propitiation, satisfaction, for sins. What I want to say to you today is I know that it's no accident that you are listening to this message from the Word of God. And maybe you are thinking: I have sinned and there's no way back. I might as well take my life. I might as well hang myself. I might as well shoot myself. O Beloved, listen to me carefully, listen to me. It is ordained by God that as I stand here in Jerusalem teaching this message, you sit there in your place where God has you, right now, and He has you listening to this message and He wants you to know that there is forgiveness. I don't know what others have said to you. I don't know if you've met some chief priests that say, **"...What is that to us...?" (Matthew 27:4)** I don't know if you've gone to someone and they brushed you off even as those brushed off Judas. But I want you to know that there is a High Priest and His name is Jesus Christ. And right now, having made satisfaction for your sins, [He sits at the right hand of the throne of God] (PARAPHRASE, Hebrews 12:2) [where He ever lives to make intercession for you.] (PARAPHRASE, Hebrews 7:25) And He wants you to know that there is forgiveness of sins. Well, **"The chief priests took**

the pieces of silver and said, ‘It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood.’” (Matthew 27:6) In other words, they bought the life of Jesus, they bought the blood of Jesus. He sold Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. So now, all of a sudden, the chief priests are keeping the law. They broke the law the night before. They tried to keep the law that morning, now they want to keep the law again. And yet, what are they doing? Well do you remember Jesus’ scathing statement about them in Matthew chapter 23? Do you remember when He levels the scribes and the Pharisees, when He talks about them as being hypocrites, leaders, blind leading the blind? Well remember in verse 23? He said, **“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law....”** (Matthew 23:23) Now listen, **“...Justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.”** (Matthew 23:23) They should keep the law and they should do with that money what is, what is prescribed. But listen, where was their justice? Where was their mercy? Where was their faithfulness to Judas when he needed them? O Beloved, listen, there’s one who is always faithful. His name is Jesus Christ and we’re going to look at His love and His mercy and His justice in just a minute.

PART TWO

As Matthew writes his gospel, remember he is presenting to us the fact that Jesus is the King of the Jews, He is Messiah, the One Who is to Come, the One who comes first, as a Suffering Savior and then second, as a reigning King. And what he does all the way through his gospel is he supports things from the Word of God. He wants us to see that Jesus is the Messiah who has fulfilled the Scriptures and this is what we’re about to see now as they take those 30 pieces of silver which they could not put into the temple treasury and they do something else. In verse 7 it says, **“And they conferred**

together and with the money [they] bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers.” (Matthew 27:7) As you go through the Gehenna Valley you can see the Potter's Field. Right now it's fenced in because this is what happens to what they call Holy Sites, here in this land. They fence them in, they put a shrine, they put up a church. But the Potter's Field was near the Valley of Gehenna. The place that was called Hades, the place that was called Hell. It was a reference to a place of judgment. And it says, **“For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.” (Matthew 27:8)** Why? Because it was bought with 30 pieces of silver, in exchange, for the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. **“Then that which was spoken [of] through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: ‘And they took the thirty pieces of silver, [and] the price of ... one whose price had been set by the sons of Israel; and they gave them for the Potter's Field, as the Lord directed Me.’” (Matthew 27:9-10)** Now actually, the quote is coming from Zechariah but you can use Zechariah and Jeremiah together to come up with this conclusion. But the direct quote comes from Zechariah (See Zechariah 11:13). And so what you have is you have Scripture, again, being fulfilled. In verse 11, **“Now Jesus stood before the governor...,”** now the governor, remember, is Pilate, **“...and the governor questioned Him, saying, ‘Are You the King of the Jews?’ And [He] said to him, ‘It is as you say.’” (Matthew 27:11)** Now watch, again, we're marking every reference to the “King of the Jews.” Because we want to understand everything that God tells us about the King of the Jews. We met him, at first, in Matthew chapter 2 when the Magi came looking for the One who was the King of the Jews. (See Matthew 2:1-16) So now he says, **“Are You the King of the Jews...?” (Matthew 27:11)** Pilate knows what's going on, I want you to understand that. Pilate has heard of this man. Pilate is not ignorant of what is going on under his jurisdiction. **“...And Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you say.’” (Matthew 27:11)** Now it says in verse 12, **“And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not**

answer.” (Matthew 27:12) You have to remember Pilate’s there. The chief priests are there. The elders are there. They’re accusing Jesus. Jesus is standing there absolutely silent. He does not answer. **“Then Pilate said..., ‘[Did] You not hear how many things they testify against You?’ And He did not answer... with regard to even a single charge, so the governor was quite amazed.” (Matthew 27:13-14)** What was happening Beloved? Well Matthew does not take us there because Matthew’s emphasis is the King. But I want us to go to Isaiah chapter 53 and in Isaiah chapter 53 which is a chapter that the Jews do not know what to do with. They keep saying that Isaiah 53 is a reference to the nation of Israel. And yet, Beloved, it’s not. It’s a reference to Jesus Christ. It’s a reference to the Messiah. It’s a reference to the Suffering Savior. And in Isaiah chapter 53 it says, **“He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before [his] shearers, so He did not open his mouth.” (Isaiah 53:7)** Do you know that you can take a lamb and put a knife to its throat, slit its throat and the lamb will never utter a word. But if you take a pig and you start to slit its throat, that pig will squeal and squeal and hurt your ears. Jesus is like a lamb before His shearers. He’s like a lamb that is being led to the slaughter. He did not open His mouth. **“By oppression and judgment He was taken away...;”** now listen, **“...as for His generation...,”** those that were living at that time, **“...who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living...,”** listen very carefully, **“...for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due.” (Isaiah 53:8)** Do you know why you can have forgiveness of sins no matter what you’ve done? You can have forgiveness of sins because Jesus paid for the transgression, your transgression. **“...The stroke was due [you]...,” (Isaiah 53:8)** the judgment was due you. But Jesus is taking it and this is why He’s standing there. He’s not opening his mouth. Why? Because it was in the Garden of Gethsemane, there on His face as He sweat **“...great drops of blood....” (Luke 22:44, KJV)** that the decision

was made, **“...Not my will, but thine, be done.” (Luke 22:42, KJV)** Not my will, but thine, be done. Why would He try to justify Himself? First of all, He’s absolutely innocent. He’s standing before men who are falsely accusing Him. He’s standing before men who are determined to see Him die. So why should He defend Himself? Why in a sense, pardon me, but why in a sense, should He [cast His pearls before swine] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 7:6) as He said in Matthew 7, why should He **“...give what is holy to dogs...?” (Matthew 7:6)** Because [those dogs would just turn and rend Him.] (PARAPHRASE, Matthew 7:6) So here we see Him as an example of what He taught to us. Here we see Him as a lamb before His shearers is dumb. **“...Do you not hear how many things they testify against You?” (Matthew 27:13)** O Beloved, have you ever been in a situation where someone has falsely testified against you? And you know that it’s a setup and you know that no matter what you say that it’s not going to change the situation. Things may be very dark in your life right now. There may be no way, no way that you feel that you are going to get justice or that you are going to get reconciliation. And I want you to know, Precious One, you are not alone. Jesus is there, He **“...sticks closer than a brother.” (Proverbs 18:24)** He has been tempted in all points as you are. He understands and He is there for you. And His arms are open wide and what He’s telling you is, “I can be touched with the feeling of your infirmities. Everything I endured, I endured so that I, as a human being, could understand what you, as a human being, are doing. So come to Him and lay this burden at His feet and know that His arms are open wide with Calvary love, with Calvary love. That’s what we’re going to see and you don’t want to miss the next program.