

Mass palm Sunday Apl 5  
ISAIAH 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me  
a well-trained tongue,  
that I might know how to speak to the weary  
a word that will rouse them.  
Morning after morning  
he opens my ear that I may hear;  
and I have not rebelled,  
have not turned back.  
I gave my back to those who beat me,  
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;  
my face I did not shield  
from buffets and spitting.

The **Lord GOD** is my help,  
therefore **I am not disgraced**;  
I have set my face like flint,  
knowing that I shall **not be put to shame**.

PSALM 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24.

R. (2a) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me;  
they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads:  
"He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him,  
let him rescue him, if he loves him."  
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Indeed, **many dogs** surround me,  
a **pack of evildoers** closes in upon me;  
They have pierced my hands and my feet;  
I can count all my bones.  
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my garments among them,  
and for my *\*vesture* they cast lots. *\*like vestments =clothing*

**But you, O LORD, be not far from me;**  
**O my help, hasten to aid me.** Words of **HOPE**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will proclaim your name to my brethren;  
in the **midst of the assembly I will praise you:**  
**"You who fear the LORD, praise him;**  
**all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him;**  
**revere him, all you descendants of Israel!"**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

And Paul to the Philippians 2:6-11

*{Philippi, now a ruin, was  
Alexander's Capital in N. Greece}*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,

This section of Isaiah talks about  
the Messiah as **Suffering Servant**.

It was, most scholars say, written by someone  
the first part of Isaiah.

Note: **I am not disgraced;**  
**I shall not be put to shame.**

So XT will not be 'shamed'  
though that was the Romans' purpose  
when crucifying someone.

**Why? YAHWEH Is my help!**  
**(Lord God = YAHWEH)**

Jews never SAID the word "Yahweh".  
That would imply control of GOD.

Notice how Isaiah and the Psalm  
restate the same ideas—  
ideas 'fulfilled in the passion'.  
But, in the end! It all works for the  
As XT does give Glory  
to GOD.

Cities had no garbage collection so  
**packs of dogs** roamed the streets.  
**People carried walking sticks to  
protect themselves from the dogs.**

coming in \*human likeness;  
and found \*human in appearance,

*\*human = one of US!*

**he humbled himself,**  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
**even death on a cross.**

Because of this, God **greatly exalted him**  
and bestowed on him **the name**  
which is **above every name,**  
that at the **name of Jesus**

every knee should bend, *{knees only bend to Kings and GOD}*  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Here Paul expresses the same theme  
that JOHN does:

XT is EXALTED on the cross.  
He is not 'held up for ridicule'  
as Rome intended.

This is a play on the word:  
*Held UP or Lifted UP.*

Before the Gospel from Philipians 2:8-9

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

because of this, God **\*greatly exalted him\***

{ says it all }

and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

GOSPEL MATT 26:14 THROUGH 27:66

Judas Iscariot

I have always thought that Judas believed that he could force XT to use His power. He wanted to be the Messiah which Judas expected and wanted.

Still the contrast between Judas and Peter is important.

Judas No Hope = Despair; Repentance = Peter, forgiven.

still the Head of the Apostles.

While they were eating,  
Jesus took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and giving it to his disciples said,  
"Take and eat; this is my body."  
Then he took a cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it to them, saying,  
"Drink from it, all of you,  
for this is my blood of the covenant,  
which will be shed on behalf of many  
for the forgiveness of sins.

The disagreement about what these words mean  
is the basic difference between much of Protestantism and the Catholic  
Eucharist.

It is called "The Real Presence".

Some Episcopalians/ Anglicans and Lutherans do hold  
Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists (among others)  
regard the Eucharist as a "reminder" and Symbol of Xt

Like a picture reminds us of a loved one.'

Peter said to him in reply,  
"Though all may have their faith in you shaken,  
mine will never be."

How often have you overestimated  
your strength, only to fall  
to weakness?

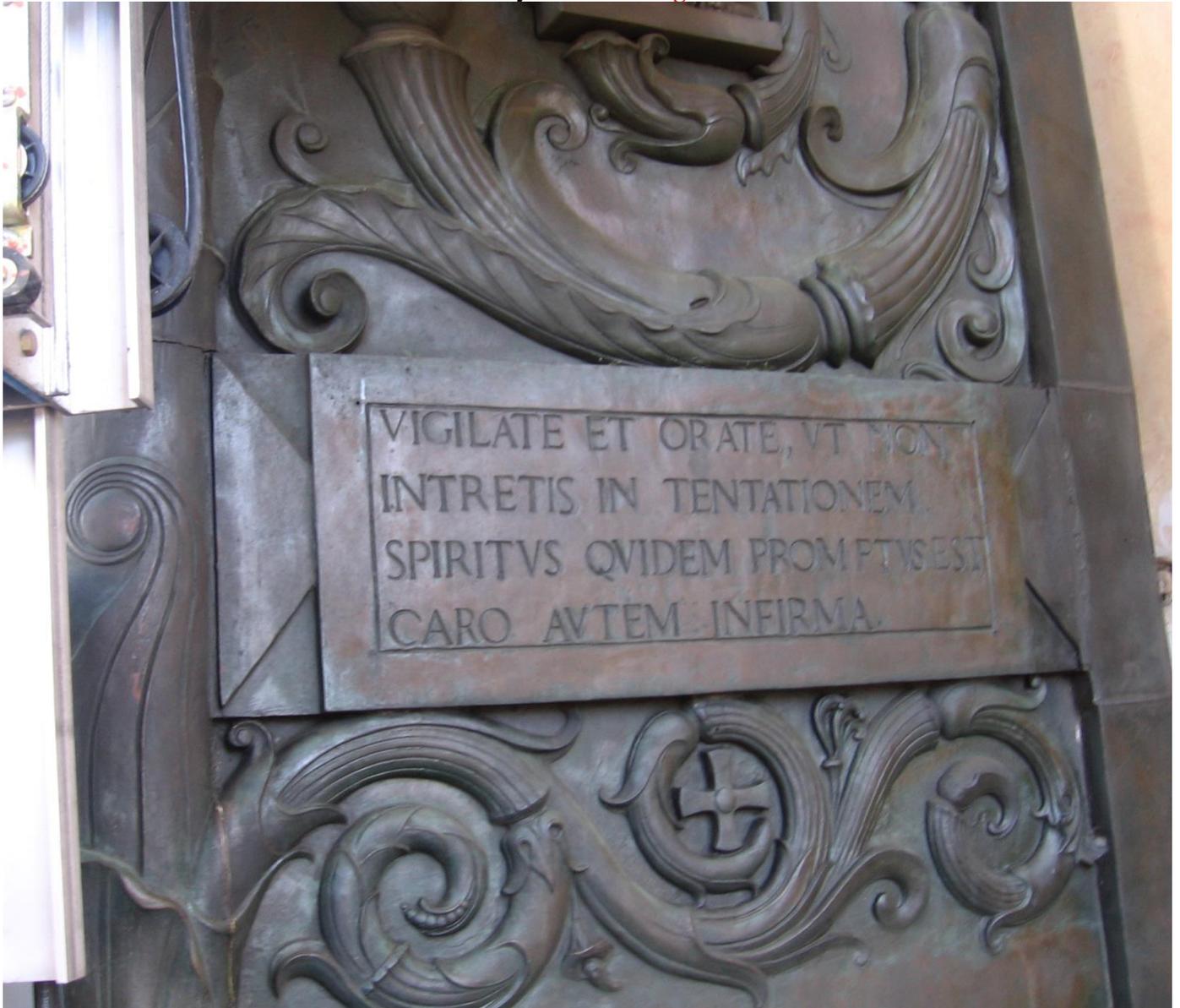
Jesus said to him,  
"Amen, I say to you,  
this very night before the cock crows,  
you will deny me three times."  
Peter said to him,  
"Even though I should have to die with you,  
I will not deny you."

REAL strength is measured  
by getting up, like Peter will,  
after you trip and fall.

And all the disciples spoke likewise.

Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane. [means: *Oil Press*]

This is the door to the modern Church; it says in Latin: **Vigilate = Watch. . . ‘Be VIGILANT!’**



When he returned to his disciples  
he found them asleep.

He said to Peter,  
“So you could not keep watch  
with me for one hour?

**Watch and pray**

**that you may not**

**undergo the test. [temptation?]** {explained more fully in the Intro}

**The spirit is willing,** Spiritus

**but the flesh is weak.”** CARO like Carnivorous animal

From Gethsemane you can see the Wall of Jerusalem. The one Olive Tree, protected by a screen from thoughtless “pilgrims”, is thought to have been alive 2,000 years ago.

While I was there, a group of Polish nuns came. Though the signs said *SILENCIA*, being women they couldn’t keep from whispering to each other. “Can’t believe we are HERE!” I guess.

Each pilgrim did get an alive branch, from other trees! (on the pic)  
The ROCK is surrounded by the railing and the thorns. It was an emotional experience for me.



Wall of Jerusalem across the valley



looking from the Church, which is behind me.  
Gethsemane = OLIVE Press

Those who had arrested Jesus led him away  
to \*Caiaphas the high priest  
where the scribes and the elders were assembled.  
Peter was following him at a distance  
as far as the high priest's courtyard,  
and going inside he sat down with the servants  
to see the outcome.

\*Caiaphas the high priest  
and Pilate were historical.  
We know when they lived  
and ruled.

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard.  
One of the maids came over to him and said,  
"You too were with Jesus the Galilean."  
But he denied it in front of everyone, saying,  
"I do not know what you are talking about!"  
As he went out to the gate, another girl saw him and said to those who were there,  
"This man was with Jesus the Nazorean."  
Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man!"  
A little later the bystanders came over and said to Peter,  
"Surely you too are one of them; even your speech gives you away."  
At that he began **to curse and to swear**,  
"I do not know the man."  
And immediately a cock crowed.  
Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had spoken:  
"Before the cock crows you will deny me three times."  
He went out and began to weep bitterly.

Then Judas, his betrayer, seeing that Jesus had been condemned,  
deeply regretted what he had done.  
He returned the thirty pieces of silver. . .  
he departed and went off and hanged himself.  
Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah  
the prophet,

*And they took the thirty pieces of silver,  
the value of a man with a price on his head,  
a price set by some of the Israelites,  
and they paid it out for the potter's field  
just as the Lord had commanded me.*

*First Station now Church of the Crowing of Thorns  
Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the Praetorium*

. . . Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head

they met a Cyrenian named Simon;  
this man they pressed into service  
to carry his cross.

{Not HELP carry! Did you ever notice that before?}

This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.  
Two revolutionaries were crucified with him,  
one on his right and the other on his left.

LUKE adds more detail to the thieves.  
He was writing for a lot of Pagans  
who had a lot of sin in their lives.  
Message: It's never too late!

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
"This one is calling for Elijah."

Elijah was at the Transfiguration.  
Everyone expected Elijah to precede the **Messiah**.

And behold, the veil of the sanctuary  
was torn in two from top to bottom.  
The earth quaked, rocks were split,  
tombs were opened.

The VEIL of the Temple kept the people from 'seeing'  
Yahweh—face to face, who was present.  
This may have been a minor, but frequent earthquake.  
Matt give it a symbolic meaning: NO veil needed!  
WE all can now gaze on the "Presence of Yahweh"  
in CHRIST CRUCIFIED.  
How can that be? He is on a cross?  
The ESSENCE of GOD is LOVE! That's the answer.

When it was evening,  
there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph,  
who was himself a disciple of Jesus.  
He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus;  
then Pilate ordered it to be handed over.

This shouldn't surprise you.  
The Ancients knew NEVER  
disrespect the dead.  
That would disrespect and ANGER the GODS!

{Joseph from Arimathea is another of those minor detail which adds credence to the SS.  
Why? *Because all the people would have known him*}

Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen  
and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock.  
Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb  
and departed.

But Mary Magdalene and the other Mary  
remained sitting there, facing the tomb.

\*This minor detail is another of the proofs  
for the veracity of SS. There is no real reason for saying  
the two women sat there for a while, is there?

The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus  
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake  
and all that was happening, and they said,  
"Truly, this was the Son of God!"

Tradition gives the Centurion the name Longinus.  
His statue is one of the 4 main statues in St. Peters.  
But his name is NOT in SS.

{These were probably not the exact words of the Centurion. Here literalists miss the point. It is not  
a Police report. But Matthew is stating that many who saw it, did become Xtians and did come to  
believe in Jesus-the-Christ, because of His Crucifixion.}

Pharisees said: Give orders, then, that the grave be secured until the third day,  
lest his disciples come and steal him and say to the people,  
'He has been raised from the dead.'  
This last imposture would be worse than the first."  
Pilate said to them,

You have to know that Pilate wanted  
nothing to go wrong, which could affect  
his career advancement!  
He did get a better assignment—to Dalmatia,

*“The guard is yours;  
go, secure it as best you can.”  
So they went and secured the tomb  
by fixing a seal to the stone and setting the guard.*