

## The Sixth Gospel

### St. Mark 15:16-32

At that time: The soldiers led Him away inside the palace (that is the praetorium); and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed Him in a purple cloak and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on Him. And they began to salute Him, "Hail the King of the Jews!" And they struck His head with a reed, and spat upon Him, and they knelt down in homage to Him. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the purple cloak, and put His own clothes on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry His cross. And they brought him to the place called Gol'gotha (which means the place of the skull). And they offered Him wine mingled with myrrh; but He did not take it. And they crucified Him, and divided His garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take.

And it was the third hour, when they crucified Him. And the inscription of the charge against Him read, "The King of the Jews." And with Him they crucified two robbers, one on His right and one on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was numbered with the transgressors." And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests mocked Him to one another with the scribes, saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe."