

A SERMON SERIES FOR EASTER 2005
The People of the Easter Story: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
Message Four- Barabbas: Liable to the Christ
Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, Good Friday, March 25, 2005

INTRODUCTION: Matt 27:15-26:

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. ¹⁶And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. ¹⁹While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him." ²⁰But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They said, "Barabbas!" ²²Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!" ²³Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!" ²⁴When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it." ²⁵And all the people answered and said, "His blood be on us and on our children." ²⁶Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

Our Series:

- Pilate: Refusal of the Christ
- Judas: Betrayal of the Christ
- Peter: Denial of the Christ
- **Barabbas: Grateful to the Christ**
- John: Loyal to the Christ

PROPOSITION: There are four truths about Barabbas that will help us appreciate the fact that Jesus also took our place on the cross!

I. BARABBAS WAS DEEPLY REBELLIOUS.

- A. His Rebellion Is Seen in His Associations.
- B. His Rebellion Is Seen in His Actions.

II. BARABBAS DESERVED RETRIBUTION.

- A. He Deserved Earthly Punishment.
- B. He Deserved Eternal Punishment.

III. BARABBAS DESIRED RELEASE (RESCUE).

- A. Barabbas Desired Freedom from Domination.
- B. Barabbas Desired Freedom from Death.

IV. BARABBAS DISCOVERED REDEMPTION.

- 1. It is Positive that He Experienced Physical Redemption.
- 2. It is Possible (Probable) that He Experienced Spiritual Redemption.

APPLICATION:

- 1. How have my associations negatively affected me? How have I negatively affected others?
- 2. Do my actions in the world reflect holiness or conformity?
- 3. Do I truly understand that without Christ I am deserving of not only physical death but eternal separation from God (Hell)?
- 4. What in my life do I need to be delivered from?

5. Do I understand that Jesus took my place on the cross, and that I did, nor can do, nothing to deserve eternal life?
6. Have I thanked Jesus recently for providing for my redemption?