

24 Hours that Changed the World

*Part 4:
Sentencing by
Pilate*



Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.

“Are you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate.

“Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied.

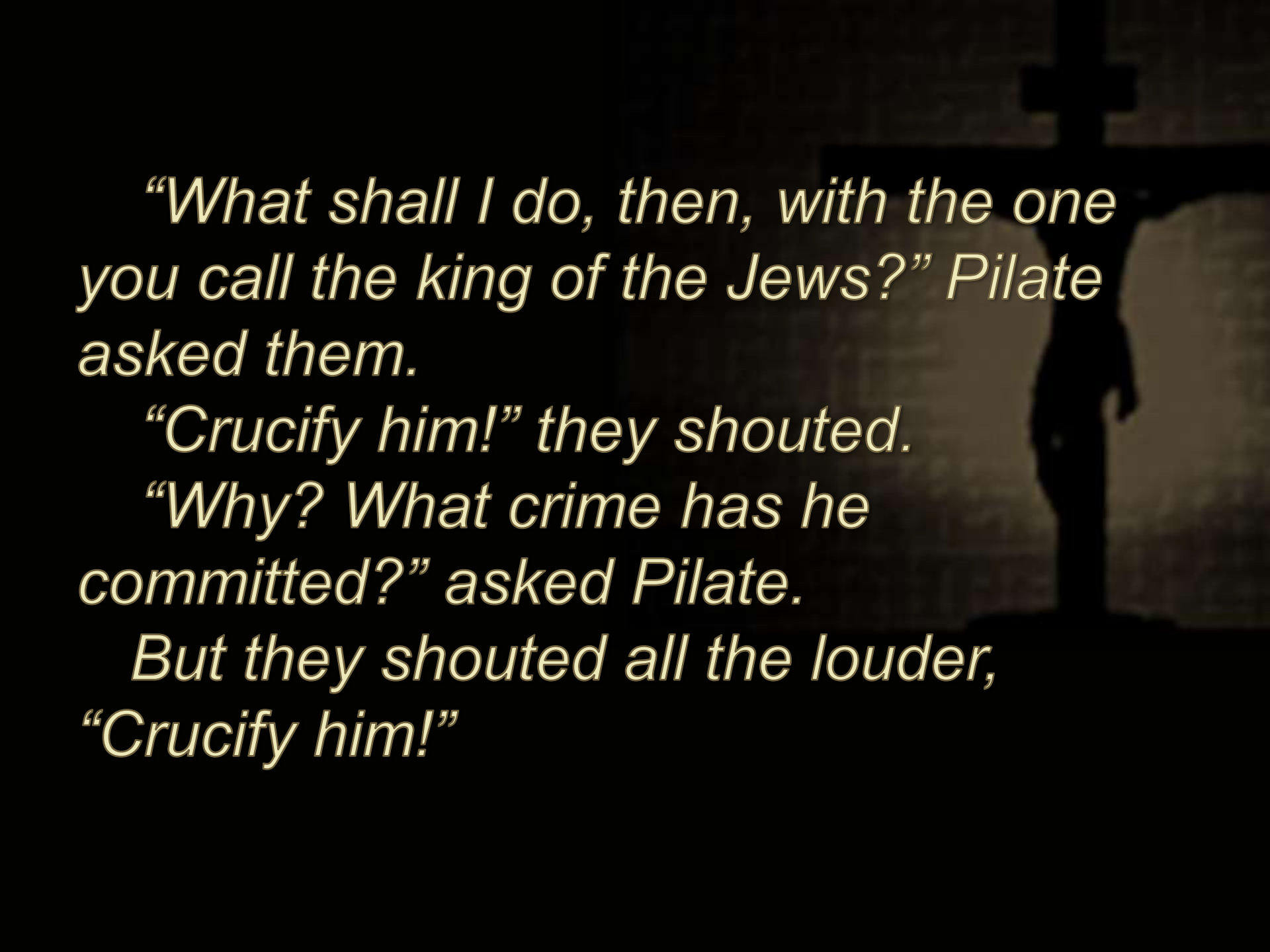
The chief priests accused him of many things. So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of."

But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who

had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.

“Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.

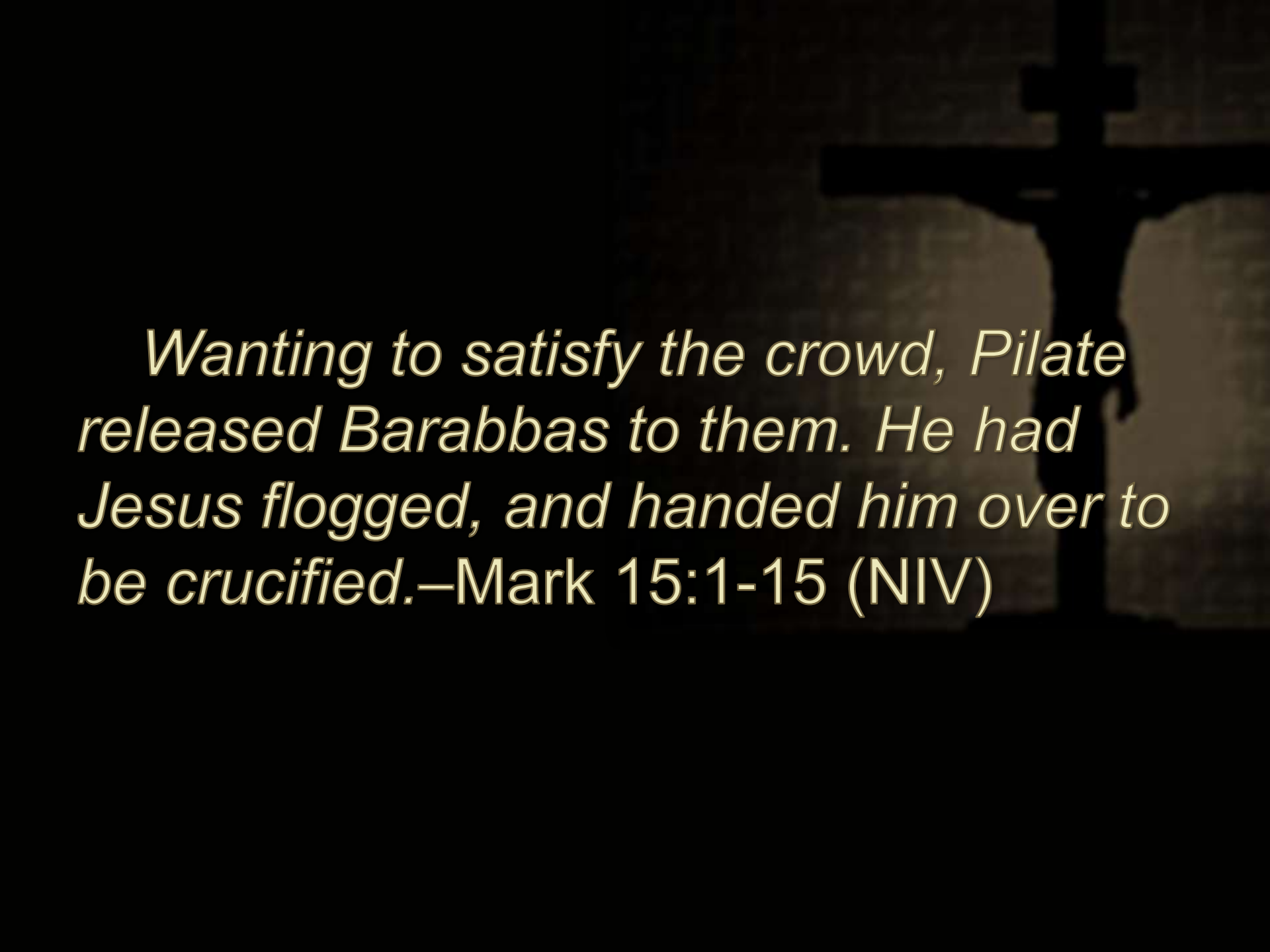


“What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them.

“Crucify him!” they shouted.

“Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

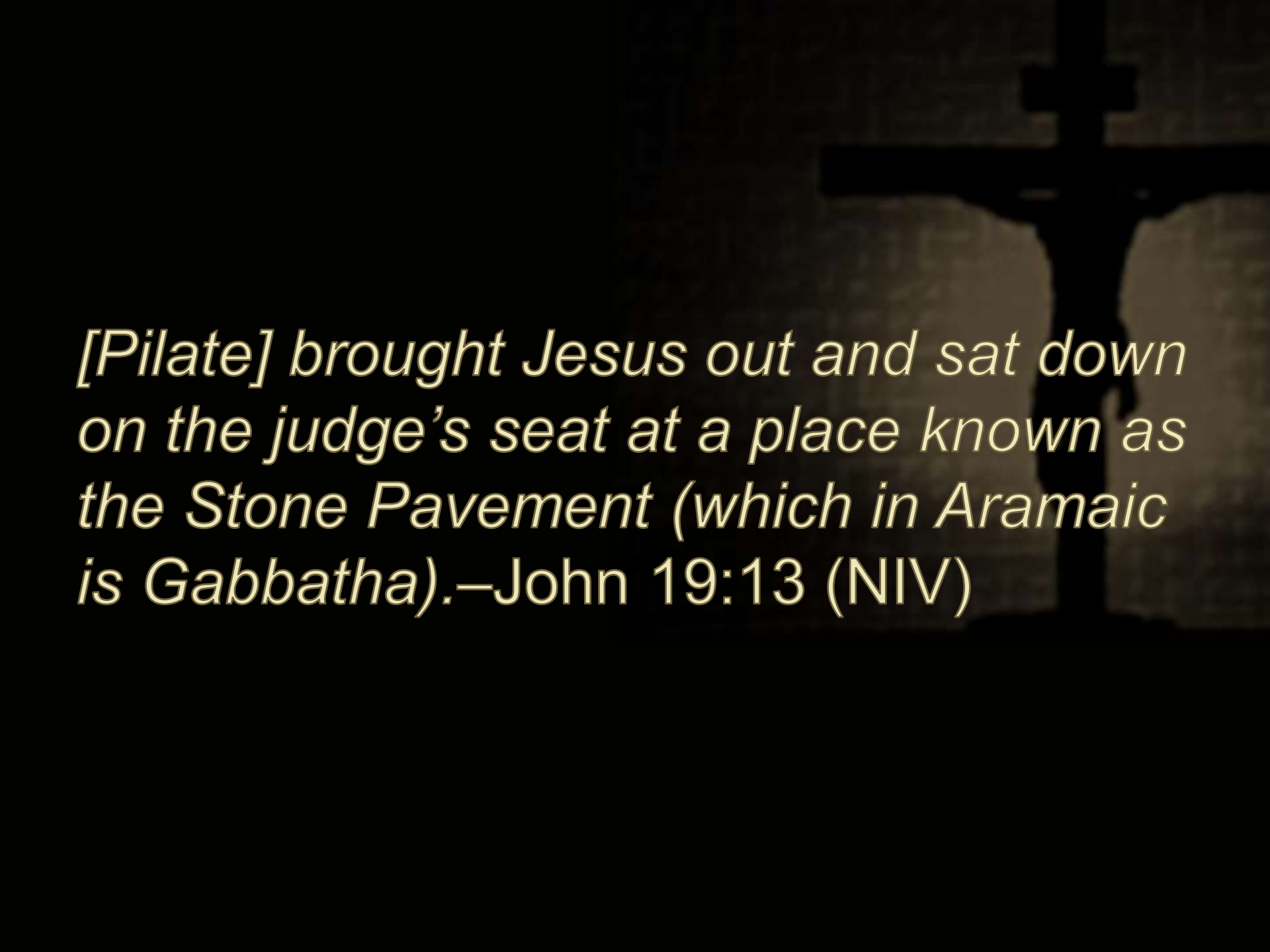
*But they shouted all the louder,
“Crucify him!”*



Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.—Mark 15:1-15 (NIV)

What is the setting?





[Pilate] brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha).—John 19:13 (NIV)

Who are the people involved?

- Pontius Pilate
- Chief Priests
- Barabbas
- The Crowd

What is going on?

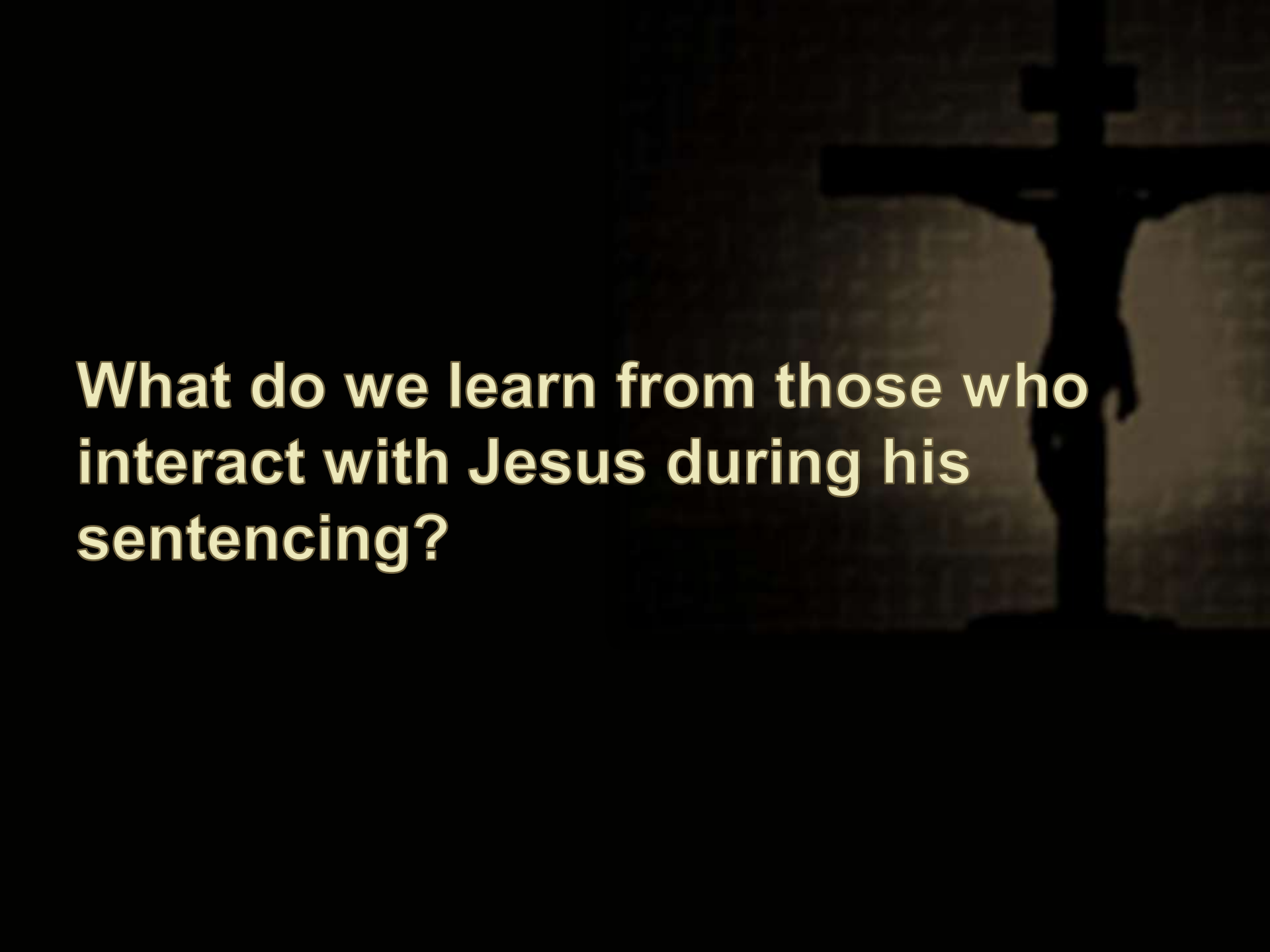


Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar.”—John 19:12 (NIV)

*He was oppressed and treated harshly,
yet he never said a word. He was led
like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a
sheep is silent before the shearers, he
did not open his mouth.—Isaiah 53:7*

(NLT)

Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.—Mark 15:15 (NIV)

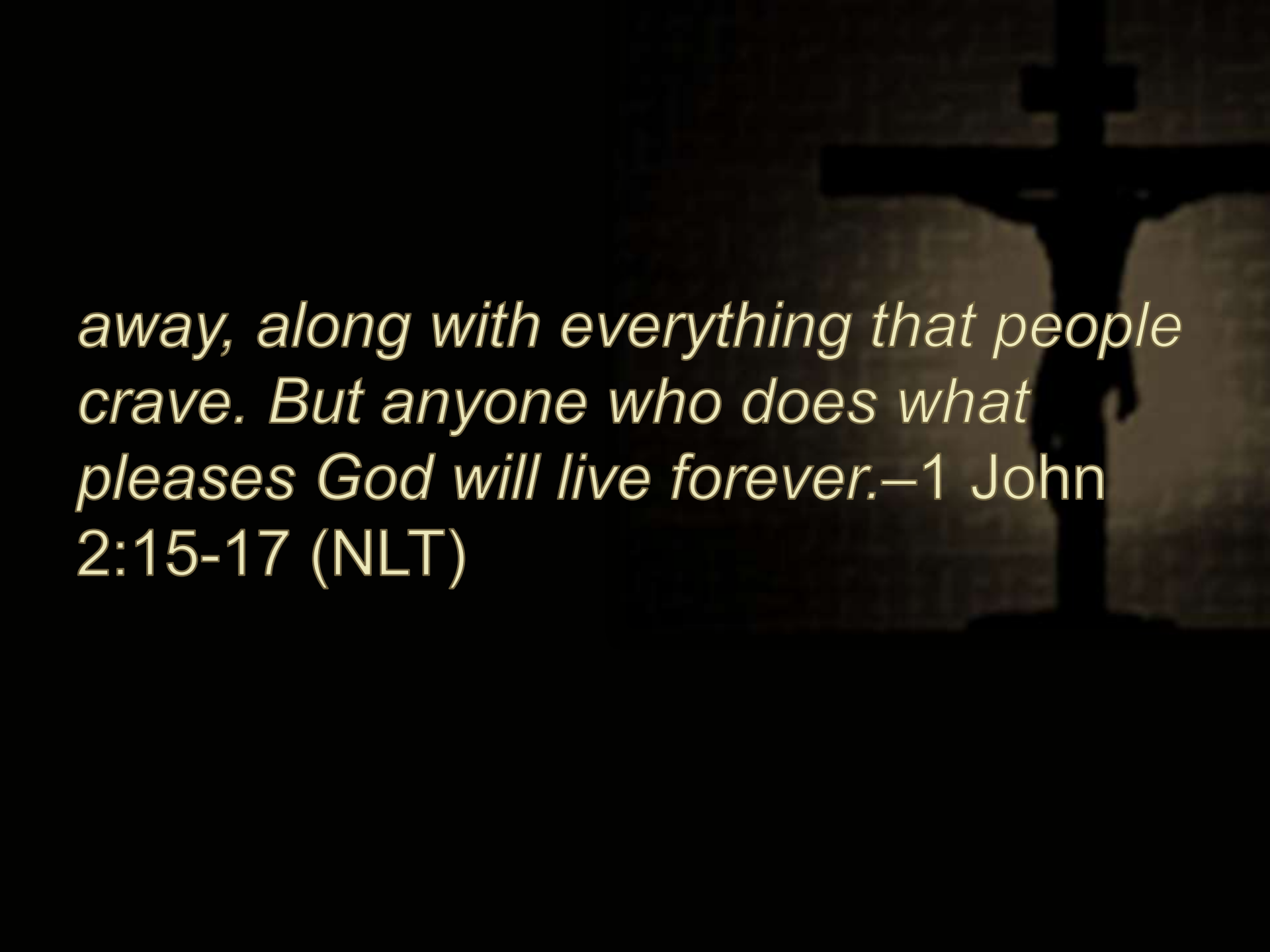


What do we learn from those who interact with Jesus during his sentencing?

1) What we can learn from the crowd:
If my focus is on the world I will
make worldly choices.

“My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world.”—John 18:36 (NLT)

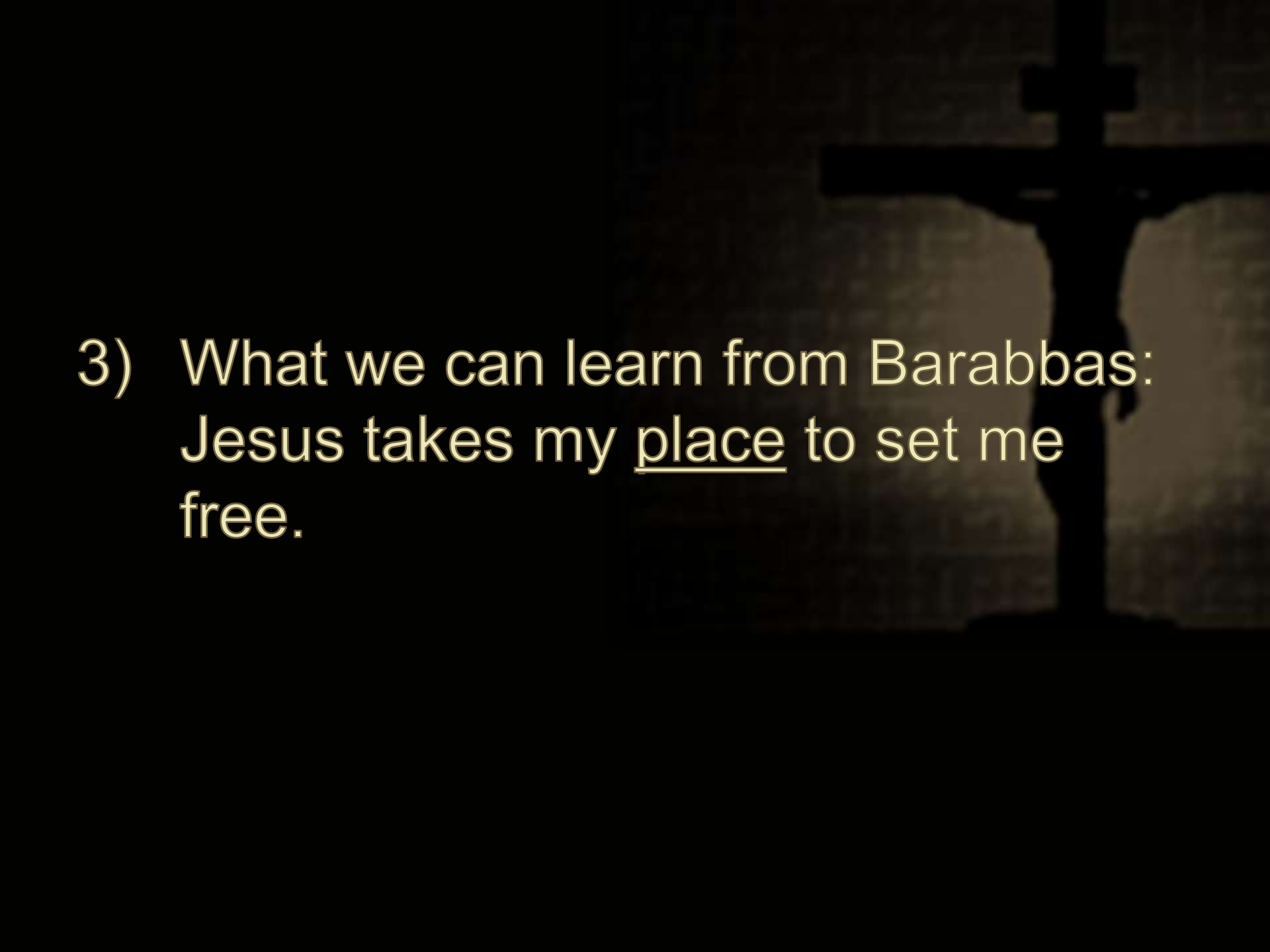
Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading



*away, along with everything that people
crave. But anyone who does what
pleases God will live forever.—1 John
2:15-17 (NLT)*

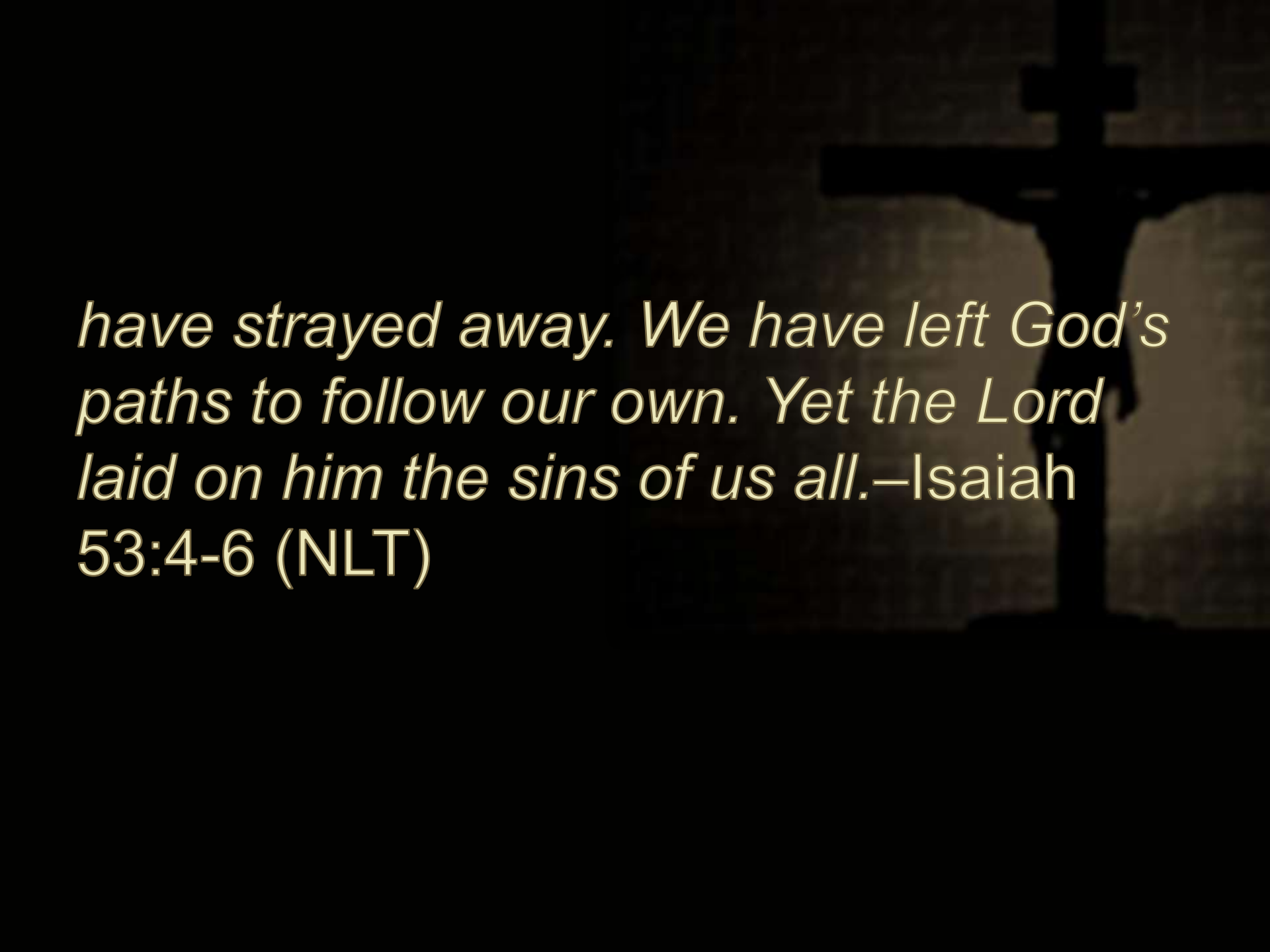
2) What we can learn from Pilate: If pleasing people is more important to me than doing what is right, I can be pressed into doing anything.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.—Romans 12:2 (NIV-2011)



3) What we can learn from Barabbas:
Jesus takes my place to set me
free.

Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. All of us, like sheep,



have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.—Isaiah 53:4-6 (NLT)

He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.—1 Peter 2:24 (NLT)

