

~BARABBAS (139)

(Bar-ab'bas) [Son of the Father, possibly, Son of the Teacher]

- The **imprisoned criminal guilty of robbery, sedition, and murder** whom Pilate set free in place of Jesus. Pilate did this, wishing to satisfy the crowd who clamored for the release of **Barabbas** at the insistence of the chief priests and older men.
- Now from festival to festival it was the custom of the governor to release a prisoner to the crowd, the one they wanted. (**Matthew 27:15**)
- Just at that time they were holding a notorious prisoner called **Barabbas**. (**Matthew 27:16**)
- Hence when they were gathered together Pilate said to them, Which one do you want me to release to you, **Barabbas** or Jesus the so-called Christ? (**Matthew 27:17**)
- For he was aware that out of envy they had handed him over. (**Matthew 27:18**)
- Moreover, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent out to him, saying; Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I suffered a lot today in a dream because of him. (**Matthew 27:19**)
- But the chief priests and the older men persuaded the crowds to ask for **Barabbas**, but to have Jesus destroyed. (**Matthew 27:20**)
- Now in responding the governor said to them; Which of the two do you want me to release to you? They said; **Barabbas**. (**Matthew 27:21**)
- Pilate said to them; What, then, shall I do with Jesus the so-called Christ? They all said; Let him be impaled! (**Matthew 27:22**)
- He said; Why, what bad thing did he do? Still they kept crying out all the more; Let him be impaled! (**Matthew 27:23**)
- Seeing that it did no good but, rather, an uproar was arising,

Pilate took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this man. You yourselves must see to it. (**Matthew 27:24**)

- At that all the people said in answer; His blood come upon us and upon our children. (**Matthew 27:25**)
- Then he released **Barabbas** to them, but he had Jesus whipped and handed him over to be impaled. (**Matthew 27:26**)
- Well, from festival to festival he used to release to them one prisoner, whom they petitioned for. (**Mark 15:6**)
- At the time there was the so-called **Barabbas** in bonds with the seditionists, who in their sedition had committed murder. (**Mark 15:7**)
- So the crowd came on up and started to make petition according to what he used to do for them. (**Mark 15:8**)
- Pilate responded to them, saying; Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews? (**Mark 15:9**)
- For he was aware that because of envy the chief priests had handed him over. (**Mark 15:10**)
- But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release **Barabbas** to them, instead. (**Mark 15:11**)
- Again in reply Pilate was saying to them; What, then, shall I do with him whom you call the king of the Jews? (**Mark 15:12**)
- Once more they cried out; Impale him! (**Mark 15:13**)
- But Pilate went on to say to them; Why, what bad thing did he do? Still they cried out all the more; Impale him! (**Mark 15:14**)
- At that Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released **Barabbas** to them, and, after having Jesus whipped, he handed him over to be impaled. (**Mark 15:15**)
- I will therefore chastise him and release him. (**Luke 23:16**)
- But with their whole multitude they cried out, saying; Take this

one away, but release **Barabbas** to us! (Luke 23:18)

- Which man had been thrown into prison for a certain sedition occurring in the city and for murder. (Luke 23:19)
- Again Pilate called out to them, because he wanted to release Jesus. (Luke 23:20)
- Then they began to yell, saying; Impale! Impale him! (Luke 23:21)
- The third time he said to them; Why, what bad thing did this man do? I found nothing deserving of death in him. I will therefore chastise and release him. (Luke 23:22)
- At this they began to be urgent, with loud voices, demanding that he be impaled, and their voices began to win out. (Luke 23:23)
- So Pilate gave sentence for their demand to be met. (Luke 23:24)
- He released the man that had been thrown into prison for sedition and murder and whom they were demanding, but he surrendered Jesus to their will. (Luke 23:25)
- Moreover, you have a custom that I should release a man to you at the Passover. Do you, therefore, wish me to release to you the king of the Jews? (John 18:39)
- Then they shouted again, saying; Not this man, but **Barabbas**! Now Barabbas was a robber. (John 18:40)
- Yes, you disowned that holy and righteous one, and you asked for a man, a murderer, to be freely granted to you. (Acts of Apostles 3:14)
- This unique custom of releasing a prisoner on the eve of the Passover every year finds no basis or precedent in the Hebrew Scriptures, and there is no extra-biblical evidence of it as a Roman practice. It evidently was of Jewish origin, because Pilate said to the Jews;
- Moreover, you have a custom that I should release a man to you at the Passover. Do you, therefore, wish me to release to you the

king of the Jews? (**John 18:39**)