

CRUCIFY HIM

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: A man stumbles into the mob calling for Jesus' death and joins right in until he hears who the crowd wants to execute.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4

TOPIC: Crucifixion, Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 27:11-26

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Easter

SUGGESTED USE: Sermon Illustration, Sermon Starter

CHARACTERS:

MEL - a former leper

DAN, SARAH, LISA - members of the crowd

Other CROWD members (if possible)

PROPS: None

COSTUMES: Biblical or modern

SOUND: Four wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Pilate's courtyard

Drama Ministry

service@DramaMinistry.com
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CRUCIFY HIM *by John Cospers*

The crowd enters, chanting over and over, "Crucify him!" DAN, SARAH, and LISA are in front. MEL casually walks on, notices the commotion, and stands by DAN.

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: Hey, guys, what's going on?

DAN: There's going to be a crucifixion!

MEL: Really? Today?

LISA: Yeah, if we can get that lousy governor to listen to us. Crucify him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: Oh boy, a crucifixion. Nothing like one of those to pick you up at the end of the week.

Crucify him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

LISA: What's taking him so long? He's got an angry mob, and we're all in agreement on this one.

DAN: Lousy Imperial politics. If he was duly elected by the masses, he'd have him half way to Golgotha.

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: Yeah, yeah, crucify him!

SARAH: And hurry it along! The Sabbath starts at six.

DAN: I didn't think about that.

SARAH: He's going to filibuster, and we're going to miss out on the fun.

MEL: Oh they'll crucify someone else next week.

DAN: We only get to Jerusalem once a year for Passover. Our camel leaves at nine Sunday morning.

MEL: Oh well, we better make this guy listen up then, right? Crucify him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

LISA: And whip him with the 39 lashes, just for good measure!

CRUCIFY HIM *by John Cospers*

Everyone looks at LISA.

What? I enjoy a good lashing.

DAN: Oh this is ridiculous. The guy's been found guilty once already by the Sanhedrin.

SARAH: You know those Romans. They have to do it their way, with their laws.

DAN: Insurrection is against the law of Rome, right?

MEL: Last time I checked it was.

DAN: Then give him what's coming to him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: By the way, who are we crucifying?

DAN: Jesus of Nazareth.

MEL: I'm sorry. Did you say Jesus of Nazareth?

SARAH: Yes he did. That Charlatan!

LISA: Heretic!

DAN: Blasphemer!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

DAN: What's the matter, buddy?

MEL: I dunno. It's just, Jesus of Nazareth, he's the reason I'm here today.

LISA: He's the reason we're all here. Crucify him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: No, no, I don't mean here in the plaza. I mean here on Earth, alive and well.

DAN: You don't honestly believe all that son of God talk do you?

MEL: I dunno about that. All I know is six months ago my limbs were in danger of falling off from leprosy. Then he healed me.

LISA: Who healed you?

MEL: Jesus of Nazareth.

CRUCIFY HIM *by John Coper*

SARAH: That's impossible! Only a man of God could perform signs and wonders like that.

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: I'm not arguing that point. I'm just saying Jesus was the one who healed me.

DAN: What's the matter with you? A moment ago, you were all excited for a crucifixion like the rest of us.

MEL: I know, I know. But are you sure we should be crucifying him?

SARAH: Of course we should!

LISA: He was found guilty by the teachers of the law!

DAN: The chosen people of God have spoken! Crucify him!

CROWD: Crucify him! Crucify him! Crucify him!

MEL: I can see your minds are made up. But still...

DAN: But what?

MEL: We may be God's people, but we've rebelled against him before. Who's to say we won't do it again?

..... *Lights down.*

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