

THE ORTHODOX WEEKLY BULETIN VESTAL, CLIFFWOOD, NEW JERSEY

WORDS SPOKEN & UNSPOKEN

Holy week, also referred to as Passion Week, is full of twist and turns. Jesus goes from His Triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to being crucified on a Cross amongst common criminals. As our Lord's Passion unfolds, there are many people who are involved. While some characters SILENTLY play out their roles, others make bold VERBAL statements.

Let us begin with those whose ACTIONS speak so loudly that words are not needed:

The unnamed woman who anointed Jesus with precious perfume.

Barabbas, the prisoner released at the expense of Christ.

Simon of Cyrene, who without complaining, endured the painful carrying of the Cross.

Women like Mary Magdalene and Salome, who silently observed where their dead Master was laid.

Then there are those who made SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS, highlighting this drama:

Peter, who boastfully said "Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be."

Judas, whose betrayal is summed up in one word: "Rabbi!"

Pontius Pilate, who mockingly asked "Are you the King of the Jews?"

The Crowd, who turned on Jesus and screams "Crucify Him!"

Mixed in are the MEMORABLE REMARKS OF JESUS:

"One of you who eats with Me will betray Me."

"Take, eat; This is My Body. This is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for many."

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

So many important things occur during this Holy Week. As we observe the Lord's sorrowful suffering, let us carefully listen to the saving words of our Saviour. Let us realize the magnitude of pain our Saviour endured to save us from sin.