

# A JOURNEY TO BE CRUCIFIED

## INVITATION

Join our Dear Saviour, at His side,  
As He goes to be crucified.  
Bring your own cross, for it is part  
Of that which He accepted from the very start.  
Now, in Jerusalem, with your own eyes,  
See Jesus as He suffers, how He dies!  
Since we are sinners, He invites us all  
To walk with Him. Come! Let us heed His call!

## 1/ CONDEMNED!

Our Lord, the Son of God we see,  
Sentenced to death for you and me!  
Pilate, who would have spared Christ's head,  
Feared the Jews, and washed his hands of Him instead!  
Upon this 'king' a crown of thorns was pressed,  
A reed placed in His hand; in purple dressed!  
They mocked and whipped Him; set Barabbas free.  
Thus Jesus had to die upon the tree.

## 2/ BURDENED!

Christ lifted up His arms to take  
The cross, to carry for our sake;  
And in so doing, He would bear  
All sins, past and to come, in which we have a share!  
It bruised His shoulders, tearing at His skin,  
Already cut by lashes deep within!  
Our Saviour's challenge is, if we'd be free: -  
"Take up your cross! Come now and follow me!"

## 3/ FALLEN!

After a while, just outside town,  
Worn out by pain, Our Lord fell down!  
In human form beneath such weight;  
Like us, except for sin, He failed, though one so great!  
Crushed underneath the wood into the ground!  
Then He was dragged up, but He made no sound!  
Often, as sinners, we shall fall down, too.  
Jesus will lift us up to start anew!

#### 4/ MOTHER AND SON

Touching moment like no other: -  
Jesus saw His dear Mother.  
Love flowed between as their eyes met!  
She who gave birth to Him, His death must witness yet!  
The words of Simeon's prophecy come true: -  
"And your own soul - a sword shall pierce it through!"  
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Oh Mary, Mother of our God above,  
Stand by us when we can't help those we love!

#### 5/ ASSISTANCE!

His torturers were worried now -  
He might not climb the hill somehow.  
So, from the passers-by who came,  
They pulled a Cyrenean - Simon was his name;  
Forced on him the cross, to keep Jesus going.  
He helped his Saviour without even knowing!  
Our Lord had once said, when we feel alone,  
He won't let us bear our cross on our own!

#### 6/ CHARITY

Compassion true shown in this place: -  
Veronica now wiped His face;  
An act of love amid the hate,  
Seeing this holy man in such a wretched state!  
Great was the risk she took to intervene,  
By pity moved at this barbaric scene.  
Left on her soothing cloth, a great reward: -  
The imprint of the face of Christ our Lord!

#### 7/ STRAIN!

God, in man's form, gave way to pain!  
His burden made Him fall again!  
They pushed and kicked, then pulled Him up,  
He who had begged His Father, "Take from me this Cup!"  
He fell since He was weak, and so shall we,  
Journeying through life, as to Calvary.  
But, helping us to find our way once more,  
Will be the Lord. Of that we can be sure!

## 8/ SADNESS

Some women, watching Him go by,  
Were genuinely moved to cry,  
Knowing that He was to be slain.  
Their truly heartfelt sorrow for Him seemed in vain!  
He turned to them and said, "Weep not for me,  
"But each one for yourself and family!"  
He spoke this way so as to prophesy  
Jerusalem would fall, and many die!

## 9/ EXHAUSTION!

Yet once again the heavy wood  
Brought down the Son of God so good!  
Too great for Him, such an ordeal!  
At our own times of crisis, He knows how we feel!  
The Shepherd shows His sheep that they will fall.  
Though just as He got up, so shall we all!  
Our Lord stays close to us and takes the strain,  
For He knows we shall sin time and again!

## 10/ HUMILIATION!

And now, at dusk, the sky grew dull  
At Golgotha: - 'Place of a skull'.  
As people gathered round and stared,  
His clothing was torn off; His injured Body bared!  
And there He stood, for all the world to see!  
Yet through it all He kept His dignity!

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Where violence, abuse and fear are rife,  
Lord, may there be respect for human life!

## 11/ CRUELTY!

His arms outstretched, down He was lain;  
Nailed through the wrists! Great was His pain!  
Likewise they nailed His aching feet!  
And, when the soldiers' brutal treatment was complete,  
They hoisted Him up, shouting mockingly,  
"If you're the Christ, then come down from this tree!"  
Looking down, Our Lord asked His Father to  
"Forgive them, for they know not what they do!"

**12/ "IT IS FINISHED!"**

After three hours, now close to death,  
He cried aloud, with failing breath,  
"My God! Oh why abandon me?"  
For Jesus felt alone as, frequently, do we.

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"My spirit, Father, I commend to Thee!"  
With that, our Saviour died on Calvary!

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His side they pierced, to make sure He was dead;  
Both Blood and Water from the wound were shed!

**13/ PIETA**

In Mary's arms they laid her son.  
The mother, now, of everyone,  
Closely she held Him as she grieved: -  
Her child, whom by the Holy Spirit was conceived.  
Now He lay there, dead! It seemed like the end  
To each disciple, follower and friend!  
Yet His whole life, even to being killed,  
Took place so that the Scriptures were fulfilled!

**14/ ENTOMBED!**

The Sabbath, now, they must prepare.  
It was a time for rest and prayer.  
So, in an atmosphere of gloom,  
They went and laid Christ's body in a borrowed tomb.  
They would return after the holy day  
In order to embalm Him where He lay.  
Weeping, they left His lifeless form alone,  
Sealing the entrance with a heavy stone!

**RESURRECTION!**

Yet that, we know, was not the end!  
They came back to anoint their friend,  
Finding a man who told them "He  
"Is risen, and waits for you down in Galilee!"  
Jesus' prophecies, they'd not understood.  
But when He met them, finally they would!  
Sin and death no more bind the human race!  
He will raise us up to His Heavenly place!

**AMEN.**