



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

PART III

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Part III The Prince of this World

Narrator: While Jesus was still speaking,
LK 22:47 A crowd of Pharisees and palace guard arrived,
And the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was
Leading them.

Jesus: Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?

Twisted, fugal chant builds as phrases are added from Men's Chorus:

Draw your swords!
Stand your ground!
Turn them back!

Narrator: And one of them struck the servant of the high priest,
Cutting off his ear.

Jesus: NO MORE OF THIS! Am I a rebel,
LK 22:51 That you come for me with swords and clubs?
Every day I was with you in the temple,
And you did not lay a hand on me.
But this is your hour, when darkness reigns.

Chorus: Blessed are you when they shall revile you,
MT 5:11 Persecute you, and falsely say all manner of evil
Against you for my sake. Rejoice and be glad, for
Great is your reward in Heaven. In the same way they
Persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Narrator: Then seizing him, they led him away
To the house of the high priest.

{MUSIC BEGINS; CROWD CHANTS}

Men's Chorus:

(The first two lines are an essential ostinato on which centers the entire section. The following lines are added, combined, overlaid, as the intensity builds.)

(COLLATED
FROM ALL
THE GOSPELS)

This man calls himself the Son of God,
The Christ, Messiah, the Anointed One.

He sets himself above the Law, the prophets.
He heals on the Sabbath,
Befriends the poor, the outcasts
Dines with prostitutes! Tax collectors!
Dances to a music all his own
That melts our hearts of stone...
Calls himself the Son of God...

Caiphas: Are you the Son of God?

LK 22:70

Jesus: I AM... I AM...

Men's Chorus: To Pilate! To Pilate!

{CHANT REPRISSES WITH MORE INTENSITY}

Pilate: Are you King of the Jews?

LK 23:3

Jesus: My Kingdom is not of this world.
If it were, my servants would fight for me.
My Kingdom is from above.
For this I was born
And for this I came into the world:
To Testify to truth.

Pilate: What is Truth?

JN 18:38

Chorus: I am the Way, the Truth, The Life
No one comes to the Father except through me;
You shall know the truth and it shall set you free.

{MEN'S CHORUS THEME RE-ENTERS; TURMOIL BUILDS}

Pilate: I find no charge against him.
What would you have me do?

Crowd: Crucify! Crucify!

Pilate: Shall I crucify your king?

Crowd: We have no King but Caesar!
CRUCIFY! CRUCIFY