

PASSION PLAY – 2025 JOHN SCRIPT (12.10.24)

Act I—Scene 4F: Joseph and Nicodemus

NICODEMUS: I can't tell. He once told me, "The wind blows where it will," and "You do not know where it's going."

JOSEPH: Nicodemus, let's hope the wind knows where it's going.

Act I—Scene 5: Anointing Scene

MARTHA: I give thanks to the Lord.

MARY LAZ: It's true; His faithful love endures forever.

JOHN: Yes, we have so much to be thankful for.

LAZARUS: He is my salvation. I will not die, but I'll live and proclaim what my God has done.

(Disciples & Jesus walk to Simon's house)

NATHANIEL: *(Excitedly)* Did you see the Look on that man's face when he opened his eyes and could see!

THADDAEUS: And who wasn't holding his breath when Jesus raised that child from the dead!

Act II—Scene 2: Last Supper

JESUS: Now, I must tell you something before it happens, so you'll believe in me when it does. It's written, "He who eats with me has lifted his heel against me." *(Pause)* I say now, in truth, one of you here with me shall betray me.

JAMES: *(After pause)* Which of us? Is it me?

NATHANIEL: Could it be me?

THADDEUS: Or me?

SIMON: Is it me?

PETER: *[stands and beckons to John]* John, ask him who he means.

JOHN: Who is it, Lord?

JESUS: *(To JOHN, alone)* It's the one I will give this piece of bread.

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JUDAS: Lord! Is it me?

JESUS: You've said it. Now, quickly, do what you are set to do!

Act II—Scene 5: Garden of Gethsemane

JESUS: *(To the eight, taking, PETER, JAMES & JOHN aside, says to them)* PETER, JAMES & JOHN your presence is a comfort to me. Sit here, while I go over there to pray.
(Moves off by Himself)

Father, all things are possible for you. Take this cup away from me, yet, let your will, not mine, be done.

JESUS: *(Touching PETER)* Simon, why are you sleeping?

PETER: I only closed my eyes for a moment.

JESUS: Pray that you will not enter into temptation...the Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

[JESUS goes off alone, again]

JESUS: Father, if there is another way, let this cup pass from me. It is written of me, "I have come to do your will." And I will...I will do your will.

JESUS: Oh Father, My Father, if I must drink this cup, so be it, Let your will be Done in me, let Your will be done.

Act II—Scene 6: Arrest Scene

[Peter cuts off Malchus's ear] [Malchus screams]

JESUS: Put up your sword!

PETER: But my Lord!

JESUS: All who take up the sword, die by the sword.

PETER: But how are we to protect you?

JESUS: Do you suppose that I could not appeal to my Father who would at once send to my aid more than twelve legions of angels?!

PETER: Then do it Lord! Save yourself and save us!

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JESUS: This is the cup my Father has given me. Shall I not drink it?

JOHN: Lord, save yourself!

JESUS: But how shall the Scripture be fulfilled which says, "This must be." If I am the man you want, let these others go!

PRIEST 2: No, hold them all!

MALCHUS: Stop! Release them. (*MALCHUS ties JESUS' hands.*)

Act III—Scene 1: Peter's Denial

SERVANT WOMAN: (*Letting PETER in*) Are you one of this man's disciples?

PETER: Woman, I do not know Him. (*Goes to JOHN.*)

SERVANT WOMAN: Come inside then.

PETER: I'll just stay out here.

Act III—Scene 6: Pilate Public Trial

(Roman laughter)

MOTHER MARY, MARY MAGDALENE, AND JOHN SCENE

RECORD WITH JESUS VOICE AS WELL IN FIRST PERSON ISAIAH 50:6

JOHN: The prophet Isaiah wrote of this:
(JESUS FIRST PERSON) "He/I will offer his/my back
to those who beat him/me..."

MOTHER MARY/(JESUS FIRST PERSON: his/my cheek to those who pull out his/my beard...

MARY MAGDALENE: He/I will not hide his face from mocking and spitting.

JOHN: Sovereign Lord, help him.

ROMAN 1: We crown you King of the Jews!

ROMAN 2: Hail O great and mighty king!

Act III—Scene 7C: Simon of Cyrene

LONGINUS: He's too weak to go on by himself. You! Help him carry the cross.

SIMON OF CYRENE: Remember though that I am innocent. I'm here from Cyrene for the Passover.

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JESUS: Simon, help me finish what I have been sent to do.

SIMON: How do you know my name?

JOHN: He's not a criminal. Help him! Lord, why are you letting this happen?

MOTHER: Yes, there must be another way.

JESUS: No, this is the only way. See! I make all things new.

Act III—Scene 8a: Crucifixion

LONGINUS: (*To SCRIBE*) (2:45) Record this: Three crucified at nine o'clock this morning, Gastas and Dysmas for theft and rebellion, and one Jesus, King of the Jews! Nail him to the cross.

NICODEMUS: (3:00-3:05) It's as He told me.... Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness...

(*NAIL, NAIL.*)

MOTHER MARY: (3:15) so the Son of Man must be lifted up...

(*NAIL, NAIL.*)

NICODEMUS: (3:22) This is what he meant.

(*NAIL, NAIL, NAIL.*)

JOHN: (3:28-48) For God so loves the world that He has given His Only Begotten Son... (Record as well "He has given His One and Ony Son for redundancy")

JESUS: (4:01) Father, forgive them! They do not know what they do!

GASTAS: (4:05) Are You not the Messiah? Save yourself...and us!

DYSMAS: (4:17) Have you no fear of God? You are under the same sentence as He, for it is plain justice. We are paying the price for our misdeeds, but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!

JESUS: (4:40) I tell you the truth. Today, you will be with me in Paradise.

MARY LAZARUS: (5:30) What are they doing? What's happening?

SIMON OF CYRENE: (5:35) The Roman soldiers are dividing his garments.

JOSEPH: (5:37) How can this be? How can they know? Is this David's prophecy?

NICODEMUS: (5:43) It must be. "They have pierced his hands and his feet. They divided his clothes among them and cast lots for his garments."

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JESUS: (6:00) Mother, see your son! (6:07) **John**, here is your mother!

JESUS: (6:20-23) *(Record two versions: One with a loud voice and another with a very soft voice)* My GOD! My GOD! Why have You forsaken Me?

Act III—Scene 8b: Earthquake and aftermath

LONGINUS: Break their legs and you may go.

ROMAN 2: The one they called Jesus is dead.

ROMAN 1: *(Tossing him a spear)* Make certain.

MOTHER: Even with his last breath, he trusted the Lord, crying out David's Psalm:

MARY MAGDALENE: "Into Your hand, I commit my spirit."

JOHN: But "You will redeem me, Lord, God of Truth."

LONGINUS: This was indeed a sign. Truly, he was the Son of God

Act IV—Scene 2: Burial

JOSEPH: Friends, Pilate has granted us the body.

JAMES: Let us take him down from the cross.

NICODEMUS: We have brought spices and linen to bury Him.

JOSEPH: And I have a new tomb nearby; we can take Him there.

MOTHER: My own Son, how has this happened? Simeon warned me of this so many years ago, when Joseph and I first brought him to Jerusalem. I cradled him tightly, my little baby boy, after Simeon told me: "A sword will pierce your soul." Now I know what he meant.

(The Pieta)

NICODEMUS: Is this what the prophet Isaiah spoke of?

JOSEPH: Surely, He took up our pain...

MOTHER: He bore our suffering...

JOHN: He was pierced for our transgressions,

MARY LAZARUS: crushed for our iniquities,

MAGDALENE: the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,

MOTHER: and by his wounds we are healed.

Act IV—Scene 7: Outside Upper Room (I want to see it)

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JAMES: Mary! What's happened? What is it?

MARY MAG.: *(Bursting)* Brothers, we have come from the tomb, just now; the stone was rolled away, and the body of Jesus was gone! Then, an angel appeared and told us He's alive...

MARY CLEO.: *(interrupting)* Raised from the dead!

MARY MAG.: Yes! And the angel told us to tell you! Well, say something!

PETER: Mary, I don't think that He...

MARY MAG.: *(Interrupting)* You don't believe us! Well, it doesn't matter, the angel said Jesus would appear to you.

JOHN: I want to see it.

Act IV—Scene 8: Appearance to Mary Magdalene

MARY MAG.: There were guards lying here unconscious.

JOHN: *(To Peter)* The wrappings are here, but no body.

PETER: *(Going inside first)* The cloth that was on His head is folded and off by itself.

JOHN: *(Falling on his knees)* It's what He said! *(Raising his hands)* I believe.

MARY LAZ.: Let's go to the others at John Mark's house. The angel said He would appear to them!

MARY MAG.: *(Coming out of Simon's house)* Was there something you wanted, Peter? *[She sees his distress]* Are you alright?

PETER: Let me alone awhile. I'll come down later.

ACT IV—Scene 11: Appearance to Thomas

PETER: *(To Thomas)* That is how it happened after I went to the tomb. He has appeared to me, Thomas, and told me to encourage the rest. Mary has seen Him; I have seen Him; so have all the rest of the apostles...

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THOMAS: (*Interrupting*) Except me. All the rest but me. You have all seen him, heard him, and touched him, and you keep saying He will appear to me, too. Yet eight days have passed and still nothing! I will believe when I see, when I touch His hands and side!

[JESUS appears]

JESUS: Peace to all of you. Thomas, here's my hand; touch Me. Put your hand to my side. Do Not Doubt! But believe.

THOMAS: My Lord and my God!

JESUS: You have believed because you have seen. Blessed are those who believe without seeing! All that was written about me in the Scriptures had to be fulfilled, that the Messiah must suffer, die, and rise from the dead on the third day, to this you shall be my witnesses.

Jesus performed many other signs not written here. If every one of them were written down, I don't suppose there would be room enough in the whole world for all the books.

But these things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and through faith will have life in His name.

ACT IV—Scene 12: Ascension

[JESUS is seated on ascension rock & all are gathered around Him PETER and James have arrived first to hook-up Jesus to Ascension Lift.]

JOHN: (4:04) Lord, will You restore the Kingdom to Israel, now?

JESUS: It's not for you to know the times or the seasons, that the Father keeps under His own authority. But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power to testify of my death and resurrection with great effect to the people of Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.