

# PASSION PLAY – MERCHANT/PROCLAIMER (12.19.24)

## ACT I—Scene 4a: Day Scene—Judas Insert

**MALCHUS:** *(To JUDAS)* Friend! Welcome to the festival! We are looking for information on where to find Jesus of Nazareth; do you know Him?

**JUDAS:** I know of Him. And I know of you, Malchus, servant of the high priest. What do you want with Him?

**MALCHUS:** The high priests want to talk to Him. They need to know where they can find Him apart from the crowd.

**JUDAS:** To arrest Him, I suppose?

**MALCHUS:** They'd be very grateful for help; a hefty wage is hard to come by these days!

**JUDAS:** The high priests would be good friends to have... It could be to my advantage.

**MALCHUS:** Can you help, then?

**JUDAS:** I'll ... I'll see what I can do.

## ACT I—Scene 4b: Barabbas Insert

*Day scene resumes... Barabbas sneaks in from Gate #2 and steals garment:*

**MERCHANT:** (Scream; voice of the PROCLAIMER)  
Stop! He stole my cloak! Thief!  
[CLAUDIA enters after scream] [Roman 2 near Marketplace]

[CENTURION]: Arrest him!

*[Two Roman guards catch Barabbas in front of Pilate's Porch.]*

**ROMAN 2:** Think you can steal and get away with it?

**ROMAN 1:** Wait! I know this man *(realizing who is)*, this man is Barabbas. He's wanted for rebellion and murder!

**ROMAN 2:** I'm sure Pilate will be pleased we've caught you at last.

**ROMAN 1:** Yes! No one can stand against the might of Rome.

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ACT I—Scene 4c: Proclaimer & Jesus enters Jerusalem

**PROCLAIMER:** Jesus is coming, it is Jesus the prophet,  
and Lazarus is with Him.

*[CHILDREN proclaiming; CROWD meets JESUS at Gate #1 and swells around Him as He proceeds on donkey. As soon as He dismounts, CHILDREN run to Him and surround Him as He approaches the Temple JUDAS rejoins the APOSTLE group. Layered voices: Who is this? ---Who is coming? ---It is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee! --- It is the man who raised Lazarus from the dead!]*

**CROWD:** *Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in The Name of the Lord! Save us now! It is the man who raised Lazarus from the dead! Let us through! We must see him. (Children's voices and other voices as well layered, with mention of Lazarus as well)*

**PRIEST 1:** Master, Reprimand your disciples!

**JESUS:** If my disciples keep silent, the very stones will cry out!

*(Children Heard Rejoicing)*