

John 19:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!

Analysis

Pilate presents the scourged, mocked, thorn-crowned Christ with 'Behold the man'—words dripping with irony. Pilate means to evoke pity (this broken man is no threat), but John intends deeper meaning: this IS the Man, the Second Adam, the Son of Man, bearing humanity's sin and shame. The crown of thorns reverses Eden's curse (Genesis 3:18). Christ's humiliation is His glorification—through suffering He redeems.

Historical Context

Roman scourging was brutal, often fatal. The purple robe and crown mocked Jesus' kingship claims. Pilate hoped the Jews would be satisfied by Jesus' humiliation, but they demanded crucifixion (v. 6), proving their hatred.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does seeing Christ's willingness to endure such suffering and shame affect your love for Him?

2. What does Christ's silent endurance teach about responding to unjust treatment?

Interlinear Text

ἐξῆλθεν	οὖν	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	ἔξω	φορῶν	τὸν	ἀκάνθινον
came	Then	G3588	Jesus	forth	wearing	G3588	of thorns
G1831	G3767		G2424	G1854	G5409		G174
στέφανον	καὶ	τὸ	πορφυροῦν	ἱμάτιον	καὶ	λέγει	
the crown	And	G3588	the purple	robe	And	Pilate saith	
G4735	G2532		G4210	G2440	G2532	G3004	
αὐτοῖς	Ἴδε	ὁ	ἄνθρωπος				
unto them	G1492	G3588	the man				
G846			G444				

Additional Cross-References

John 19:2 (Parallel theme): And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe,

Hebrews 12:2 (References Jesus): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Isaiah 7:14 (Parallel theme): Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 40:9 (Parallel theme): O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

John 1:29 (References Jesus): The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.