

Matthew 27:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

Analysis

They stripped him (ἐκδύσαντες, ekdysantes)—complete public humiliation, exposing Jesus naked before soldiers. **A scarlet robe** (χλαμύδα κοκκίνην, chlamyda kokkinēn)—a military cloak, likely a worn-out soldier's cape, mimicking royal purple.

This stripping fulfills Psalm 22:18 (**they part my garments among them**) and anticipates the permanent stripping of his seamless tunic (John 19:23-24). The scarlet robe parodies royal investiture while ironically pointing to Isaiah 1:18 (**though your sins be as scarlet**)—Jesus bears our crimson guilt.

Historical Context

Roman crucifixion was designed for maximum shame. Victims were crucified naked to strip away human dignity. The scarlet military cloak (chlamys) was common among Roman soldiers, easily appropriated for mockery.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus's willing acceptance of total humiliation contrast with Adam and Eve's shame-covering in Genesis 3?
2. What does the scarlet robe symbolically reveal about Christ bearing our sins?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτῷ περιέθηκαν αὐτῷ χλαμύδα
And they stripped him and put on him robe
G2532 G1562 G846 G4060 G846 G5511

ΚΟΚΚΙΝΗΝ
a scarlet

G2847

Additional Cross-References

Mark 15:17 (Parallel theme): And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head,

Luke 23:11 (Parallel theme): And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.