

The cross



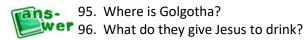
The rough soldiers crucify the Lord Jesus, who allows all this to be done to Him, in the centre at the place of execution, Golgotha (vv17-18).

Pilate continues to mock the Jews by calling the Crucified "King of the Jews" (vv19-22).

The tough soldiers share out the clothes of Jesus, which they have taken off Him, as if they were a kind of booty. Without knowing it, they fulfil a prophecy from Psalm 22:19 (vv23-24).

Some women and the disciple John are standing near the cross. Even on the cross Jesus thinks of His aged mother Mary (who was by then probably already a widow) and asks John to care for her (vv25-27).

After the three hours of darkness, the prophecy from Psalm 69:22 still had to be fulfilled. Then the Saviour says: "It is finished" and gives up His life (vv28-30).



The title on the cross was written in three languages, so that form everyone could read it (v20):

- Hebrew was the religious language
- Latin was the political language
- Greek was the academic language

It's a fact – the whole world is guilty of the crucifixion.

