

# JESUS' CLIMB TO CALVARY

Meditations based on the  
Hebrew Scriptures  
THE BOOK OF WISDOM

Elizabeth Clancy Erickson  
2004

**Please contact author at [clancy\\_erickson@yahoo.com](mailto:clancy_erickson@yahoo.com) or 815.886.5840  
in order to secure permission and terms of use prior to using these materials.**

**T**he ungodly by their words and works summoned Death.  
They thought to make of it a friend,  
and presumed to make a covenant with Death.

In foolishness they reasoned, saying to themselves;

“Our lives are short and tedious,  
and from death there is no escape.

Birth is but a caprice;

our lives but wisps of smoke, vanishing in the soft air.

Come, therefore, let us enjoy the good things present.

Let no one of us go without our share of hedonism.

Let us oppress righteous poor men; not sparing the widow,  
nor revering the ancient gray hairs of the aged.

Let our power dictate the law of right,  
for what is feeble is worthless.”

Wisdom 1:16-2:11

The First Station...

## JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

Let us lie in wait for the Blameless Man,  
because he is clean contrary to our doings.

He rebukes us for offenses against the law,  
and admonishes us for sins against our training.

He professes to have the knowledge of God,  
and calls himself a child of the Lord.

He was made to reprove our thoughts,  
we detest the very sight of him.

His ways are unlike the ways of other men;  
he rejects our ways as sordid.

He proclaims the life end of the righteous to be blessed;  
he boasts that God is his father.

Wisdom 2:12-15 & 16b

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

...3...

The Second Station...

## JESUS IS GIVEN THE CROSS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

Let us see if his words be true,

and let us scrutinize what happens at the end of his life.

For if the Blameless Man is God's child, God will help him,

and will deliver him from the hands of his enemies.

Let us assault him with spite and torture,

so we may find out how patient he is,

and make trial of his integrity.

Let us condemn him to a shameful death,

for according to his own words, he will be protected.

Such things did they imagine, yet they were deceived,

their own wickedness blinded them.

Wisdom 2:17-22

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Third Station...

## JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

The unrighteous know not the secret purposes of God.

God created man to be immortal,

to be an image of God \_s own eternity

Through envy, the devil brought death into the world;

and they who heed the devil \_s ways, do find it.

The souls of the righteous are in God \_s hands,

no torment will ever touch them.

In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die,

their departure is taken for misery.

Yet is their hope is full of immortality.

They are in peace.

Wisdom 2:23-3:5

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

...5...

*The Fourth Station...*

## JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

I, also, am a mortal person;

a descendant of the one first made of the earth,

Fashioned in my mother's womb to be flesh,

compacted in blood, of the seed of man.

When I was born, I drew in the common air,

and fell upon the earth.

The first voice which I uttered was crying,

as all others do.

I was nursed in swaddling clothes, nursed with care.

For there is no king who has any other beginning of birth

All have but one entrance into life,

and all have but one going out.

Wisdom 7:1-6

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

salm 130:5

The Fifth Station...

## SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

Blessed are the outcasts,  
no iniquity proceeds from their hands.

The outcasts have not imagined  
vile and wicked things against God.

For unto them shall be given  
the special gift of faith.

Their inheritance is in the temple of God,  
a sustenance to those who trust.

Glory is the fruit of good labor;  
the root of Wisdom never withers away.

Wisdom 3:14-15

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

The Sixth Station...

## VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

The soul of the Blameless Man pleased God,  
therefore God hastened to take him away from the midst of the wicked

The unrighteous saw this and did not understand.

They could not comprehend.

God's grace and mercy is with the saints,

God has respect for the chosen.

The unrighteous see the Blameless Man and despise him,

but God shall laugh them to scorn.

God shall shake them from the foundation,

all remembrance of the unrighteous shall cease.

Then shall the Blameless Man stand in great boldness

before those who afflicted him

And when they see this,

the unrighteous shall be troubled.

Wisdom 4:13-5:1

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Seventh Station...

## JESUS FALLS A SECOND TIME

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

The souls of the righteous are in God's hands,  
and there, no torment shall touch them.

Though they seem punished in the sight of men,  
their hope is full of immortality.

For having been chastised a little,  
they shall be greatly rewarded.

As gold in the furnace, God has tried them;  
God has proven them, and found them worthy.

They who put their trust in God,  
shall understand the truth.

Grace and mercy flow to the saints;  
God cares for the elect.

Wisdom 3: 1-9

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

The Eighth Station...

## JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

God, who is Lord over all, fears no person;

neither does God stand in awe of anyone's greatness.

For God made the small and great, and cares for all alike.

Learn wisdom, do not fall away.

For they who keep holiness holy,

shall be judged holy.

And they who have learned such things,

shall find what to answer.

Therefore set your affection upon God's words;

desire them, and you shall be instructed.

Wisdom 6:7-11

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

The Ninth Station...

## JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

Wisdom sheltered the first-formed father of the world,  
and delivered him from his sins.

Those who served Wisdom were rescued from troubles;  
they were given the power to rule all things.

When a righteous man fled from his brother's wrath,  
Wisdom guided him on straight paths.

Wisdom showed him the kingdom of God,  
and gave him knowledge of holy things.

Wisdom defended the Blameless Man from enemies,  
keeping him safe from those who lay in wait.

In a harsh conflict Wisdom gave him victory, so that all might know;  
goodness is stronger than all.

Wisdom 10:1-2, 9-12

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Tenth Station...

## JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

When the unrighteous recollect the accounts of their sins,  
they shall know fear. Their sins shall convict them.

Then they shall be troubled;  
troubled with a terrible fear.

The righteous live for evermore;  
they are in God's care.

They shall receive a beautiful crown  
from God's own hand.

God's right hand covers them,  
by God's arm, they are protected.

Then shall the Blameless Man stand,  
undaunted before those who abused and afflicted him.

Wisdom 4:20, 5:15-16, 5:1

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Eleventh Station...

## JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

The unrighteous shall groan to one another in anguish.

In anxiety and repentance they shall say,

This is the one we held in derision,

we mocked him, and set him as an example for contempt.

Such fools were we.

We judged his life as madness,

and characterized his end to be without honor.

How is it that he is gathered with the children of God?

How has he become numbered among the saints?

Wisdom 5:3-5

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

The Twelfth Station...

## JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

All things were in quiet silence,  
the night was nearly gone.

God's almighty word leaped down from heaven,  
a fierce warrior thundering to a land of destruction;

Carrying God's unequivocal commandment,  
as a sharp and swift sword.

Touching heaven while standing on earth,  
all things were filled with death.

Sudden visions terrified,  
panic came upon them unbidden.

The troubling dreams foreshadowed;  
so, as they perished, they should know why they were afflicted.

Wisdom 18:14-19

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Thirteenth Station...

## JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

God did not make death.

God takes no pleasure in the destruction of the living

God created all things,

that they might thrive and have their being.

The generation of the world was healthful;

There is no poison of destruction in God's creation,

The kingdom of death is not upon the earth,

For righteousness is immortal.

Wisdom 1: 13-15

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalm 130:5

The Fourteenth Station...

## JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

V: Wisdom is a loving spirit; but will not absolve blasphemers of their words.

R: For God beholds their truest feelings, and witnesses the thoughts in their hearts...

Wisdom 1:6

The Blameless Man made haste,  
and rose to champion the people.

He brought forward the armor of his ministry,  
prayer and peacemaking.

The Blameless Man declared that he is God's servant.

He set himself against indignation and brought calamity to an end.

The Blameless Man overcame the destroyer,  
not with strength of body, nor with the force of arms.

With a word the Blameless Man subdued the ones who punished.

He recalled the oaths and affirmed the covenant God had made with the ancestors.

When the dead had fallen down in heaps,  
one upon another,

The Blameless Man stayed the wrath,  
diverting its way from the living.

For the whole world was depicted on his long robe,  
the memory of the ancestors engraved on the crown upon his head.

Unto him the unrighteous gave way,  
God's Blameless Man did they fear.

Wisdom 18:21-24

V: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits;

R: In his word is my hope.

Psalms 130:5

**L**ove righteousness,  
you that are the judges of the earth.  
Think of God with a good heart,  
seek God in the simplicity of your heart.  
God will be found by those who do not challenge him;  
God comes to those who do not distrust.  
Evil thoughts separate the unrighteous from God;  
when God's power is accosted, the foolish are exposed.  
For God is gracious and true, patient and longsuffering;  
God is merciful in the ordering of all things.  
Knowing this power, we are emboldened  
to turn away from sin.  
For, even in sin, we are still counted,  
gathered as God's own.  
To know God is to know perfect righteousness.  
Yea, to know God is to know the root of immortality.

Wisdom 1:1-3; 15:1-3

Elizabeth Clancy-Erickson, 2004

The passages from the Book of Wisdom (or, the Wisdom of Solomon) are adapted and blended, by the author, from the King James Version.

The citations note the passages' approximate locations.

All rights reserved. Please contact author at [clancy\\_erickson@yahoo.com](mailto:clancy_erickson@yahoo.com) or 815.886.5840 to secure permission and terms of use before using materials.