

The Easter Story



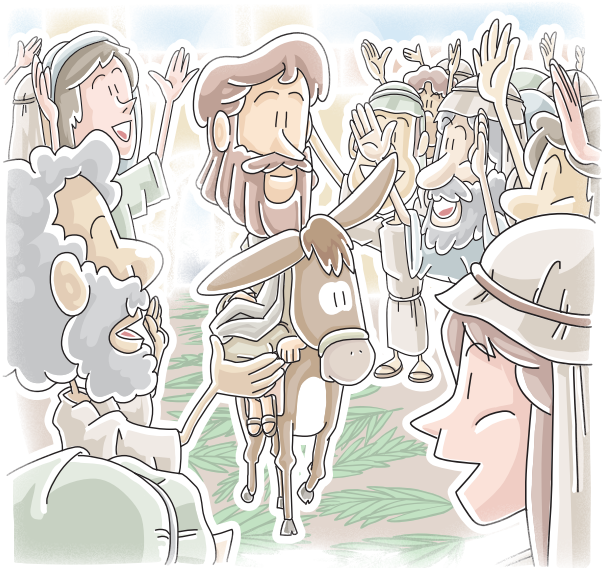
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The Easter Story

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Written by Suzie Sallee



Easter is more than just eggs or a toy,
So let's read along why we have much joy.
He gave up His life, so all would be free;
"I love you," says Jesus, and He too loves me!



He rode to Jerusalem on a donkey this day,
And people were asking, "Who is this, you say?"

A very large crowd
Spread cloaks on the ground,
While others laid branches
From trees all around.



Merchants took over the temple, you see,
To try to make fortunes by charging a fee.
"My house will be called a house of prayers,
This isn't the place to market your wares."

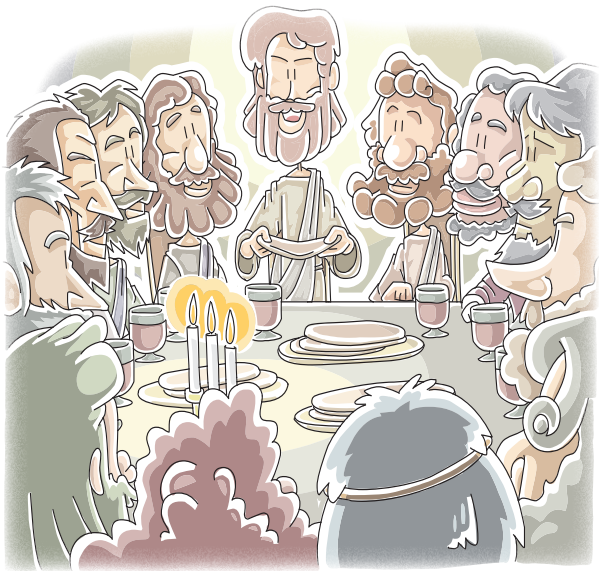


Jesus loved Judas, though he would betray
The location of Jesus; they left on their way.

A bagful of silver Judas was paid,
To give up the Lord—the choice that he made.



He wanted to wash His followers' feet,
The upper room is where they would meet.
He took a towel from around His waist,
Showing each one, God's amazing grace.



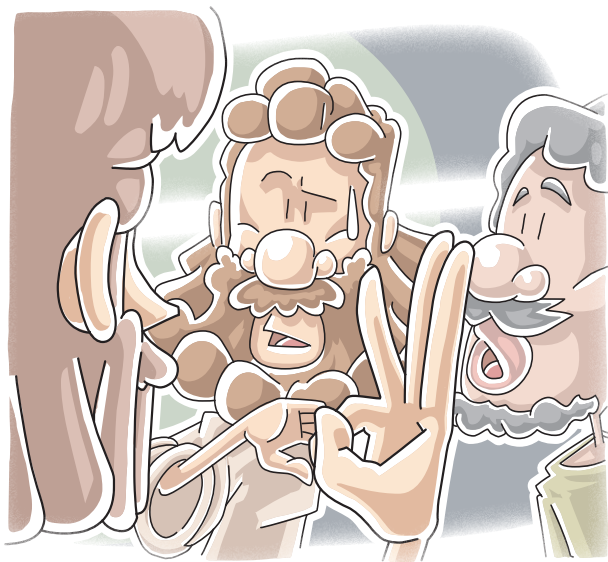
Sharing bread and wine,
He gave thanks as He did.
"My body and blood—partake so you'll live."
He sheds His forgiveness;
He knows all our sins.
He wipes them away for His Word always wins.



In the cool of the evening,
He went out and prayed.

In the garden He bowed, and to God He obeyed.

"But not of My will, only Your will be done,
For You are My Father, and I am Your Son."



"Do you know Jesus?"

Scared Peter said, "NO!"

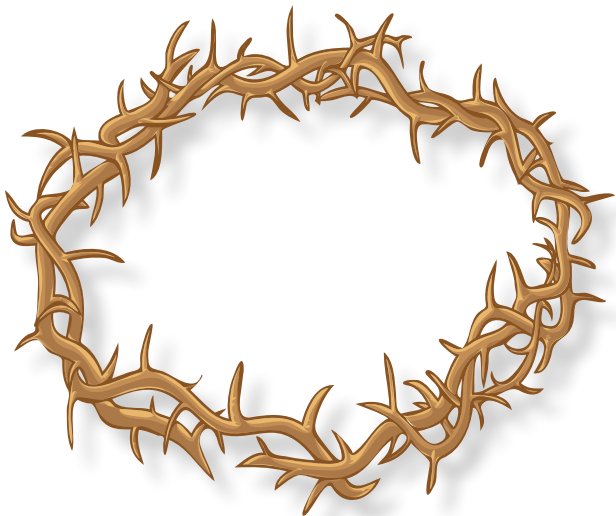
Three times he confessed, denying Him so.

"I don't know what you're talking about.

I know not this Man; I haven't a doubt."



The soldiers led Jesus to Pilate that day.
"You're not our King, guards; take Him away!"
He handed Him over, so they'd crucify;
The King of the Jews was surely to die.



They twisted some thorns
For a crown on His head.
They joked and they laughed;
To the cross He was led.
They placed that crown on the head of our Savior.
Yet Jesus stood firm; His love wouldn't waver.

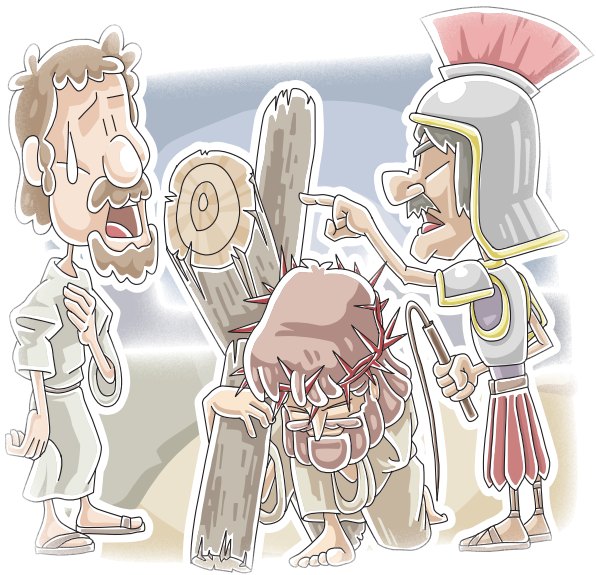


"My kingdom is not of this world,"
He would say.

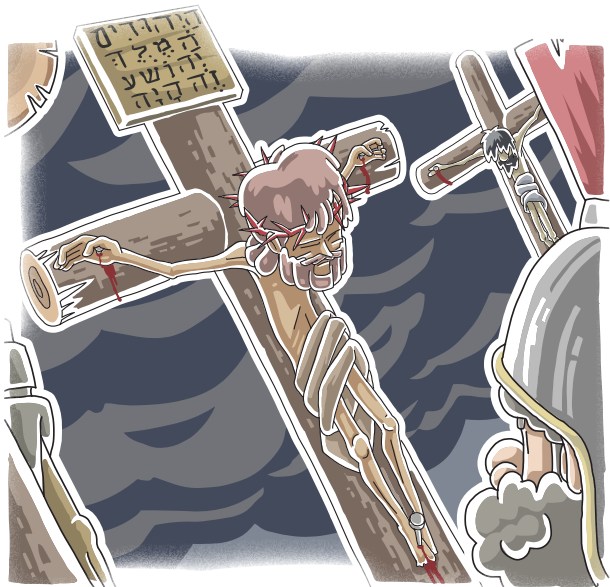
"I was born for this reason; the price I will pay."

"Don't let Him go!" the crowd had all hissed.

"Let Barabbas go free;
This man won't be missed!"



Dragging His cross to the hill on that day,
They whipped Him and beat Him
Each step of the way.
His mother walked with Him
And cried as she knew
His life would be taken with all that they'd do.



They crucified Him, piercing hands and His feet.
Jesus knew soon His Father He'd meet.

"Save Yourself, Jesus!"

They shout from the crowd,
Making fun of our King,
As they boasted out loud.



They cast their lots by rolling the dice.
They wanted His clothes;
They didn't think twice.
"Father, forgive them," His love always true,
Continued by saying,
"They know not what they do."



Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" He said.
He surrendered His life,
As He bowed down His head.
Trusting in God He gave up His Spirit,
His voice from the cross,
The people did hear it.



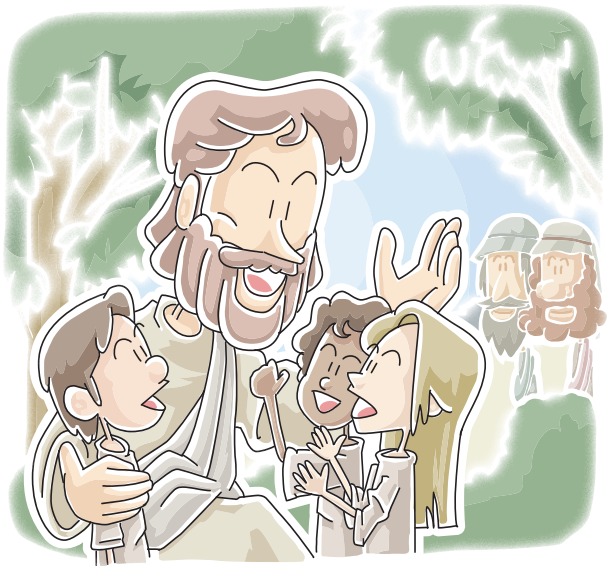
They wrapped up His body,
Put Him in the tomb.
Some thought that Jesus
Had caused His own doom.
Three days will pass; the world will all see:
Jesus will rise for you and for me!



To the tomb, women went
To bring spices that day,
But all that they saw
Was the stone rolled away.
"You won't find a live person here with the dead.
Jesus has risen," the angel had said.



"Now don't be afraid, and go tell my brothers,
And they will spread word to all of the others.
If you have faith and truly believe,
I'll live in your heart,
And your life I won't leave."



"Someday in heaven you'll be with Me;
Your soul will find rest and truly be free."
Remember God's love and what He has done
By giving to us His only true Son.



Easter has come,
So all will see
All that this day
Is meant to be!

The Easter Story follows Jesus as a grown-up. Watch Him as He enters Jerusalem, speaks with His disciples, is betrayed, arrested and, eventually, crucified. Thankfully, the story doesn't end there, because three days later He rose from the grave! Wonderfully drawn images capture powerful moments during Jesus' life that plainly tell the story of God's love for all mankind.

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