**“Who is This Man?”**

**A Study through the Gospel of Mark**

**“A Rebel, A Thief, And Me”**

**Mark 15: 1-41**

**Pastor Chance McConnell**

**Only a handful of verses in all of Mark are devoted to Barabbas and the two thieves but their significance to us is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**All that we know of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is that he was a “notorious criminal”.**

**Barabbas is now caught up in a surprising moment of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The crowd causes a clear deviation from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plan - it is one thing to let a guilty prisoner go free with no questions asked but it is an altogether different thing to make an innocent man take his cross and his punishment.**

**Barabbas is a living illustration of the kind of free and undeserved grace that can be ours’ through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tells us that we are all rebels to God - rebels to His will - rebels who have gone our own way and sought our own apart from Him (Isaiah 53:6; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Romans 3:23).**

**All mankind - every single person - is in need of something they cannot produce within themselves: deliverance from their own\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, that is right standing before God, comes to the believer through the work of Jesus.**

**Just like the thief on the cross, we were all at one moment reviling and rebelling, and the next moment promised paradise because we simply\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Just like Barabbas we are guilty and destined for death, and then we are set free; another man was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our place.**

**Application (Take Home Truths)**

**We need to feel the weight of our sin and the hopelessness of our own inability to keep the standard His holiness demands. We need to see that we can do nothing to make ourselves right with God on our own. All we can do is cling to God’s grace - freely given and unmerited - just like that thief on the cross.**

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| **profound** | **Barabbas** | **Mercy & grace** | **Pilate’s** | **Jesus Christ** |
| **gospel** | **sin** | **Justification** | **believed** | **condemned** |