

Guilty

Luke 23:32-43

(The Reader and the Actor will not interact together; instead, they will be looking at the audience while speaking. Readers and Actors should speak loudly and slowly so everyone can hear every word. Readers—read dramatically.)

Reader: No one likes to admit they are guilty. But in the face of a Holy God who created us and has no sin we cannot say anything but we are guilty.

Jesus was persecuted and led to the cross to be crucified. “Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left.”

Actor: (Step out from behind the divider wearing a sign that reads “Guilty.” Stand to the right of the Reader.)

Actor: (Step out from behind the divider wearing a sign that reads “Guilty.” Stand to the left of the Reader.)

Reader: Brutally beaten and weak, “Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.’ ... The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. ‘He saved others,’ they said, ‘let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.’”

Actor: (Angrily) “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!”

Actor: (Humbly) “Don’t you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for what we have done wrong, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.

(Looking at audience) Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”

Reader: (Reach over and remove the right thieves sign that reads “Guilty “and put the sign around your neck—before continuing to read.) “And Jesus replied, ‘I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”

(Both thieves bow their heads)

We have sinned, done wrong, and have not pleased God. Sin pays us off with death.

(Romans 6:23) But Jesus chose to die in our place.
