



The Reason for the Season by Ron Thomas

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

In the minds of many folk at this time of the year, there is significance to the December 25th date. It does not matter if you tell them the Scriptures do not speak of any special remembrance to the date of the Lord's birth. What matters to them is that "the reason for the season" is a time to remember the Lord's birth, coupled with gift giving.

Perhaps we can resist that and be accurate in doing so, or we can take a different approach and move (teach) people from where they are to where they should (or could) be in their own understanding. This is my approach.

The text of this article comes from **Matthew 27:27-31**; Jesus was mocked by those who sought His death. I readily admit there is nothing in the text of **Matthew 27:27-31** that lends itself to the Christmas season, but that is my point. Though I will speak against the "reason for the season" approach that most take, my primary focus is in telling others why Jesus came and the humiliation He suffered for having done nothing wrong, not even a single thing!

Jesus walked on the earth teaching the Father's command to a people (the nation of Israel) steeped in rebellion to His revealed word. The Israelite nation would have, and did, reject the notion they were in rebellion to the Almighty's exhortations as revealed in Scripture. Yet Jesus time and time again pointed out and demonstrated that is exactly what was occurring with them. More than that, though He pointed out their rebellion, it was only a part of His message. The other part was that He (Jesus) was the fulfillment of prophetic Scripture declarations. For instance, He said:

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished (**Matthew 5:17-18**, ESV).

This was more than the people of the nation wanted to hear, especially the religious leaders. Consequently, the leaders set themselves to be against Jesus. There were opportunities, but they could not pull it off. Finally, they were able to arrest Him and put Him on trial. They did not realize that this was all a part of God's plan. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him (**Acts 13:27**).

Jesus stood before Rome's governmental representative in the text of **Matthew 27:27-31**. The people in that court-setting looked at Jesus and with disdain mocked Him as they rejected His mission and message. And they stripped him

and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head (**Matthew 27:28-30**).

Jesus came to this earth to seek and save the lost (**Luke 19:10**), but the lost did not recognize their very-bad-standing in the Lord's presence. Because they failed to understand and most of the people living to day have failed to understand also, the reason for the season is lost on everyone. What is the reason for the season?

The reason for this season and every season of the calendar year is for the Christian to live and preach Jesus.

Here you have it.

— Ron Thomas, Sunrush, Ohio, 12/2018