

## Guest Speaker Troy Weigert

# To be Used by God

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1. Does God use only “good people” or does He also use evil people to fulfill His purposes? Read the last sentence in verse 24; what is “therefore” referring to?
2. What motivation was driving the soldiers as they divided Jesus’ garments and gambled for His tunic?
3. List some wrong motives a person might have in doing service.
4. Read verses 25 and 26. John is used by God to care for Mary; what was John’s motivation in these verses? (See how John refers to himself in verse 26.) Read John 15:13. What was Jesus’ motivation for going to the cross? What should be your motivation in serving God and others (Matt. 22:36-39)?
5. List some practical ways you can serve God with a pure heart (I Tim. 1:5; I Pet. 1:22).
6. What are some benefits of submitting yourself to the will of God?
7. Discuss how God uses evil men, and how He uses His people. Is there a difference? If so, in what way?
8. Why did John record all of the minute details of Jesus’ death (v. 23-42)? Could Jesus have died another way? Why or why not? Jesus was crucified (v. 23). Read Leviticus 24:16; what method of capital punishment is prescribed in this passage? (Also see John 10:31-33.) The Jews accused Jesus of blasphemy (19:7); why was He crucified and not stoned? (Deut. 21:22,23; Gal. 3:13)

<sup>23</sup>Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. <sup>24</sup>They said therefore among themselves, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be,” that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:

*“They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.”*

Therefore the soldiers did these things.

<sup>25</sup>Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” <sup>27</sup>Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” <sup>29</sup>Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. <sup>30</sup>So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

<sup>31</sup>Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

<sup>32</sup>Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.

<sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. <sup>34</sup>But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. <sup>35</sup>And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. <sup>36</sup>For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, “Not one of His bones shall be broken.” <sup>37</sup>And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”

<sup>38</sup>After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. <sup>39</sup>And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. <sup>40</sup>Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.

<sup>41</sup>Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. <sup>42</sup>So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews’ Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.