

Good Friday

By Jonny White

Individual speaking parts:

Jesus	Judas
Voice 1	Voice 2
Priest 1	Priest 2
False accuser	Peter
Servant Girl	Pilate

4 Groups of people at corners of crowd. Start off as part of march of witness, then move quickly to positions at corners of a square:

Group 1 Behold. Jesus. The son of God.

Group 2 That's not true

Group 3 It can't be so

Group 4 Why don't you believe?

Group 1 Who do you say he is?

Group 2 A charlatan

Group 3 A faker

Group 4 The Christ

Group 1 What has he done for you?

Group 2 Nothing

Group 3 *[Louder]* NOTHING

Group 4 *[Even louder]* EVERYTHING

Group 1 What has he given you?

Group 2 Nothing

Group 3 *[Louder]* NOTHING

Group 4 *[Even louder]* EVERYTHING

[Groups break into 2 groups, facing each other. One group is the disciples. The other is the large crowd with Judas. The disciples form a semi circle around Jesus.]

Jesus Look. The hour is near and the son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Let us go. Here comes my betrayer.

[The crowd advance threateningly but silently, waving fists]

Judas *[Advances towards Jesus]* Greetings Rabbi. *[Kisses Jesus on cheek]*

Everyone *[Start at a whisper, gradually getting louder until it becomes a shout on the last traitor]* Betrayer. Traitor. Betrayer. Traitor. Betrayer. Traitor. Betrayer. Traitor. *[SILENCE]*

Jesus Do what you came for.

[Four of the crowd come forward and grab Jesus, pinning his arms to his side. Disciples disperse.]

Voice 1 Take him to the priests.

Crowd To the priests.

[Crowd splits while Jesus is dragged through them. Half the Crowd now becomes the Sanhedrin the rest disperse. Peter and servant girl remain to one side as Jesus is held in front of the Sanhedrin, central]

Priest 1 I find no fault in him

Sanhedrin No faults.

Accuser This fellow said I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in 3 days.

Priests Blasphemy!

Priest 2 What do you say, Jesus?

Priest 1 I charge you under oath by the Living God. Tell us if you are the Christ. The son of God?

Jesus It is as you say.

Priest 1 Blasphemy!

Priests *[Growing in volume]* Die. Die. Die. Die. Die. *[SILENCE]*
[All players hang their heads]

Servant Girl *[Lifts Peter's head with her hand]* You're one of them.

Peter I don't know what you mean.

Servant Girl You were there with Jesus.

Peter What are you on about?

Servant Girl Look everyone. *[All players lift heads and stare at Peter]* He's one of Jesus's friends.

Peter *[Shouted]* I don't know the man. *[Runs through crowd]*
Crowd regroups to surround all people watching. Jesus is dragged by 2 guards before Pilate and thrown to the floor.

Pilate I am Pilate. I have the power to set you free. Are you the King of the Jews.

Jesus It is as you say.

Pilate *[Steps forward past Jesus. Jesus is hauled to his feet and takes position to the rear and right of Pilate. Barabbas is brought in to stand on the other side, also held by 2 guards]* Who do you want me to release to you?

Voice 1 Barabbas

Crowd *[Take up the chant]* Barabbas. Barabbas. Barabbas. Barabbas. Barabbas.
[SILENCE]

Pilate And what shall I do with Jesus?

Voice 1 Crucify him!

Crowd Crucify. Crucify. Crucify. Crucify. Crucify. *[SILENCE]*
[There is the sound of a nail being driven into wood. 10 beats.
Crowd breaks into 2 groups, facing outward looking at any onlookers]

Voice 1 God loved the world so much that He gave Jesus, His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Jesus will not perish but will have eternal life.

Voice 2 That means

Group 1 You *[Pointing out to the members of the public]*

Group 2 You *[Pointing out to the members of the public]*

Voice 1 For God did not send his Son Jesus into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Voice 2 Jesus died on Good Friday

Group 1 *[Loudly]* But on Easter Sunday Jesus rose again

All *[Very loudly]* Jesus is alive.
[Everyone lifts heads and hands]
[Silence]

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