

The Final Hours Pantomime version

CHARACTERS: A, B, C, D, soldiers, angel, Peter, Judas, High Priest, Pilate, Sanhedrin, Herod, Joseph, Nicodemus

COSTUMES: Bright, happy clothing covered by black, floor length, hooded cloaks for the 4 readers; Jesus has white robes for the final lines; pantomimers have what works with your scrim in order to appear most clearly to the audience.

PROPS: Cross, crown of thorns, whip, spear

SETTINGS: Scrim hung so a pantomime of the actions as they are described occur

RUN TIME: 7-8 minutes (depending on how quickly action occurs and how quickly reader's pick up their cues)

SCRIPTURES: Matthew Mark 14-15, Luke 22-23, John 19-20, Acts , Romans 1, 6, 8; Ephesians 1, 2 Timothy 2, 1 Peter 1

GARDEN JESUS PRAYS

A: He was sorrowful, deeply distressed and horrified.

B: He was in anguish, praying fervently, and His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground.

A: His soul was swallowed up in sorrow

A & B: to the point of death.

A: The angel strengthened Him

JESUS ARRESTED

D: Judas betrayed Him

C: Soldiers arrested Him

C & D: All the disciples deserted Him and ran away

JESUS TRIALS

A: The high priest questioned Him

B: The Sanhedrin condemned Him

A & B: blindfolded Him, spit in His face and beat Him

B: Peter denied Him

A: The temple police slapped and mocked Him

B: The chief priests and scribes vehemently accused Him.

A: Pilate questioned Him

B: Herod treated Him contemptuously

A & B: mocked Him, dressed Him in a brilliant robe, and sent Him back to Pilate.

C: The crowd cried "Crucify Him"

D: Pilate had Him flogged

C & D: and then washed his hands of Him

D: The governor's soldiers put a crown of thorns on His head,

C & D: mocked Him, spit on Him, slapped and hit Him on the head.

C: Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified.

D: Crowds followed Him.

C: Women mourned and lamented Him

JESUS ON THE CROSS

A: They divided His clothes by casting lots

B: Those who passed by insulted Him

A: The women who had followed Him watched from a distance

B: The chief priests, scribes and elders scoffed Him

ALL: Jesus forgave them and breathed his last. (*A, B, C and D remove black hoods*)

D: One of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear

C: The centurion declared Him the Son of God

D: Joseph and Nicodemus buried Him (*all pantomimers exit and scrim is lifted*)

THE THIRD DAY

A: We killed the source of life; but on the third day,

ALL: God demonstrated His power by raising Him from the dead (*A, B, C and D throw off black cloaks to reveal bright clothing*)

ALL: and seating Him at His right hand in the heavens

B: Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead

ALL: and the ruler of the kings of the earth,

C: the one who loves us and has set us free from our sins by His blood

ALL: has been declared the powerful Son of God by the resurrection from the dead

D: Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again.

A: Death no longer rules over Him.

B: If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you,

ALL: Then He who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life

C: He has given us a new birth into a living hope

D: through the resurrection of Jesus Christ (*JESUS joins the Readers on stage as they sweep their hands toward Him*)

ALL: so keep your attention on Him as risen from the dead.