

HOLY THURSDAY
7 CHURCHES VISITATION

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HENRY MC CAY LL.D. DIED 31st DEC. 1884
ERECTED BY HIS WIDOW

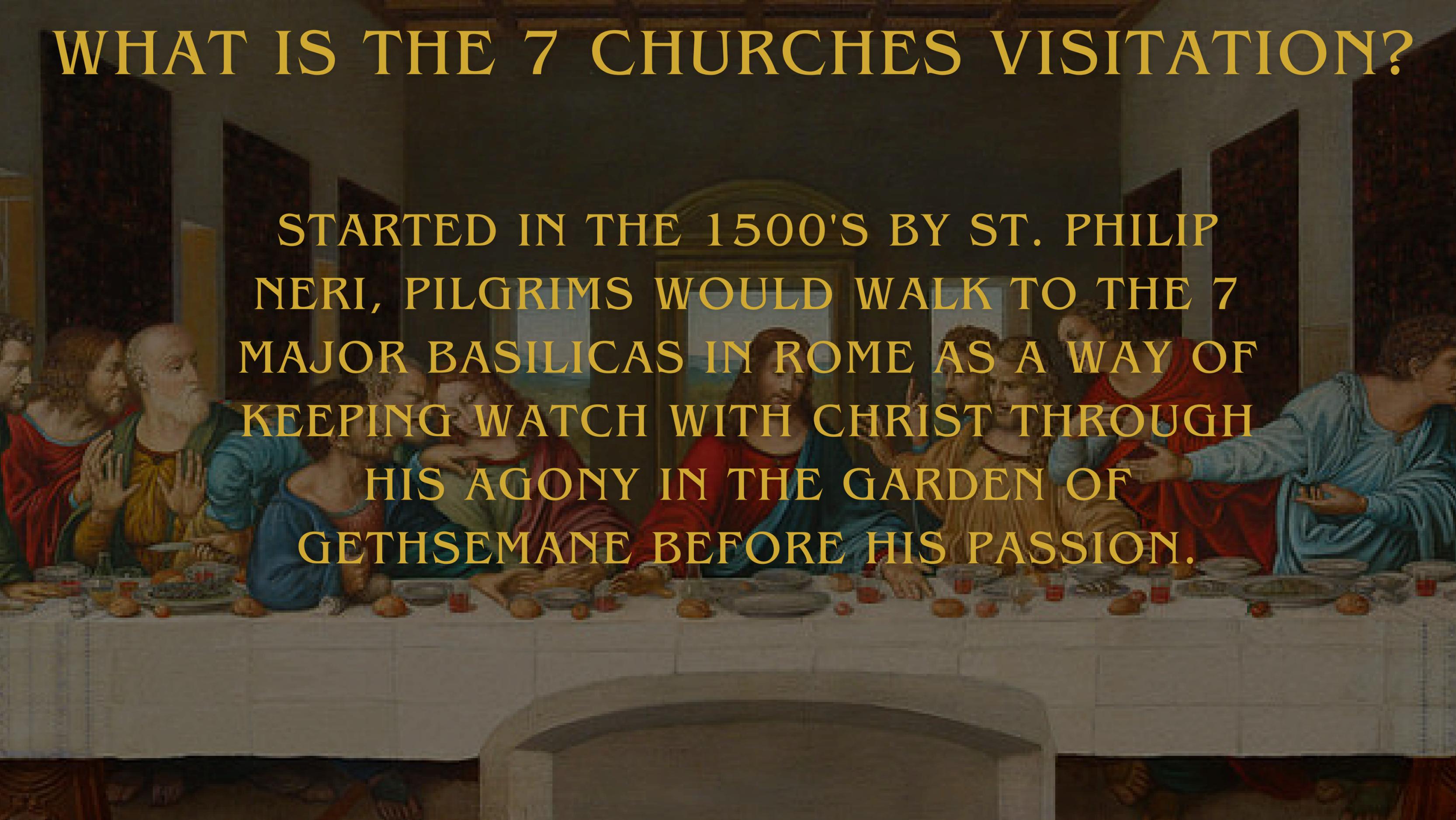
ORDER OF EVENTS

1. HOLY THURSDAY MASS
2. ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT CATHEDRAL
3. MEET IN PARKING LOT AND GET IN CARS
4. CHURCH VISITATIONS



WHAT IS THE 7 CHURCHES VISITATION?

STARTED IN THE 1500'S BY ST. PHILIP NERI, PILGRIMS WOULD WALK TO THE 7 MAJOR BASILICAS IN ROME AS A WAY OF KEEPING WATCH WITH CHRIST THROUGH HIS AGONY IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE BEFORE HIS PASSION.



BEFORE WE BEGIN

TONIGHT, WE WILL BE FOLLOWING JESUS AS HE PRAYS IN THE GARDEN, IS ARRESTED AND TRIED AND CONDEMNED TO DIE ON THE CROSS.

EACH STATION IS A SNAPSHOT OF THE FINAL HOURS OF JESUS' LIFE.

TONIGHT, WE ENTER INTO PRAYER AND IMAGINE OURSELVES IN HIS SHOES AND THE SHOES OF THE APOSTLES.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. EACH STATION HAS 2 SLIDES- A VIDEO AND A SCRIPTURE READING.
2. IN THE CAR: WATCH THE VIDEO AND READ THE SCRIPTURE ALOUD. KEEP A MEDITATIVE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN STATIONS AND THINK ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING.
3. IN THE CHURCH: MEDITATE AND PRAY WITH THE SCRIPTURE AS YOU PRAY BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

MEDITATIVE PRAYER - HELPFUL TIPS

"MEDITATION IS THE ACTIVITY OF CALLING TO MIND, AND THINKING OVER, AND DWELLING ON, AND APPLYING TO ONESELF, THE VARIOUS THINGS THAT ONE KNOWS ABOUT THE WORKS AND WAYS AND PURPOSES AND PROMISES OF GOD."

1. TAKE A FEW CALMING BREATHES
2. MAKE YOURSELF AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD
3. READ THE SCRIPTURE SLOWLY, ALLOWING YOUR MIND TO ABSORB THE WORD.
4. CHOSE A WORD OR PHRASE TO THINK DEEPLY ABOUT FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES.
5. END IN THANKSGIVING.

JESUS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

LUKE 22: 39-46

39 HE THEN LEFT TO MAKE HIS WAY AS USUAL TO THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, WITH THE DISCIPLES FOLLOWING.

40 WHEN HE REACHED THE PLACE HE SAID TO THEM, 'PRAY NOT TO BE PUT TO THE TEST.'

41 THEN HE WITHDREW FROM THEM, ABOUT A STONE'S THROW AWAY, AND KNELT DOWN AND PRAYED.

42 'FATHER,' HE SAID, 'IF YOU ARE WILLING, TAKE THIS CUP AWAY FROM ME. NEVERTHELESS, LET YOUR WILL BE DONE, NOT MINE.'

43 THEN AN ANGEL APPEARED TO HIM, COMING FROM HEAVEN TO GIVE HIM STRENGTH.

44 IN HIS ANGUISH HE PRAYED EVEN MORE EARNESTLY, AND HIS SWEAT FELL TO THE GROUND LIKE GREAT DROPS OF BLOOD.

45 WHEN HE ROSE FROM PRAYER HE WENT TO THE DISCIPLES AND FOUND THEM SLEEPING FOR SHEER GRIEF.

46 AND HE SAID TO THEM, 'WHY ARE YOU ASLEEP? GET UP AND PRAY NOT TO BE PUT TO THE TEST.'

JESUS BEFORE ANNAS

JOHN 18:19-22

19 THE HIGH PRIEST QUESTIONED JESUS ABOUT HIS DISCIPLES AND HIS TEACHING.

20 JESUS ANSWERED, 'I HAVE SPOKEN OPENLY FOR ALL THE WORLD TO HEAR; I HAVE ALWAYS TAUGHT IN THE SYNAGOGUE AND IN THE TEMPLE WHERE ALL THE JEWS MEET TOGETHER; I HAVE SAID NOTHING IN SECRET.

21 WHY ASK ME? ASK MY HEARERS WHAT I TAUGHT; THEY KNOW WHAT I SAID.'

22 AT THESE WORDS, ONE OF THE GUARDS STANDING BY GAVE JESUS A SLAP IN THE FACE, SAYING, 'IS THAT THE WAY YOU ANSWER THE HIGH PRIEST?'

JESUS TAKEN BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST, CAIAPHAS

63 BUT JESUS WAS SILENT. AND THE HIGH PRIEST SAID TO HIM, 'I PUT YOU ON OATH BY THE LIVING GOD TO TELL US IF YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD.'

64 JESUS ANSWERED HIM, 'IT IS YOU WHO SAY IT. BUT, I TELL YOU THAT FROM THIS TIME ONWARD YOU WILL SEE THE SON OF MAN SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE POWER AND COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.'

65 THEN THE HIGH PRIEST TORE HIS CLOTHES AND SAID, 'HE HAS BLASPHEMED. WHAT NEED OF WITNESSES HAVE WE NOW? THERE! YOU HAVE JUST HEARD THE BLASPHEMY.'

MATTHEW 26: 63-65

JESUS IS TAKEN BEFORE PILATE

JOHN 18:35-37

35 PILATE ANSWERED, 'AM I A JEW? IT IS YOUR OWN PEOPLE AND THE CHIEF PRIESTS WHO HAVE HANDED YOU OVER TO ME: WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?'

36 JESUS REPLIED, 'MINE IS NOT A KINGDOM OF THIS WORLD; IF MY KINGDOM WERE OF THIS WORLD, MY MEN WOULD HAVE FOUGHT TO PREVENT MY BEING SURRENDERED TO THE JEWS. AS IT IS, MY KINGDOM DOES NOT BELONG HERE.'

37 PILATE SAID, 'SO, THEN YOU ARE A KING?' JESUS ANSWERED, 'IT IS YOU WHO SAY THAT I AM A KING. I WAS BORN FOR THIS, I CAME INTO THE WORLD FOR THIS, TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE TRUTH; AND ALL WHO ARE ON THE SIDE OF TRUTH LISTEN TO MY VOICE.'

JESUS IS TAKEN BEFORE HEROD

LUKE 23: 8-11

8 HEROD WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE JESUS; HE HAD HEARD ABOUT HIM AND HAD BEEN WANTING FOR A LONG TIME TO SET EYES ON HIM; MOREOVER, HE WAS HOPING TO SEE SOME MIRACLE WORKED BY HIM.

9 SO HE QUESTIONED HIM AT SOME LENGTH, BUT WITHOUT GETTING ANY REPLY.

10 MEANWHILE THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE SCRIBES WERE THERE, VIGOROUSLY PRESSING THEIR ACCUSATIONS.

11 THEN HEROD, TOGETHER WITH HIS GUARDS, TREATED HIM WITH CONTEMPT AND MADE FUN OF HIM; HE PUT A RICH CLOAK ON HIM AND SENT HIM BACK TO PILATE.

JESUS IS TAKEN BEFORE PILATE AGAIN

MATTHEW 27:22-26

22 PILATE SAID TO THEM, 'BUT IN THAT CASE, WHAT AM I TO DO WITH JESUS WHO IS CALLED CHRIST?' THEY ALL SAID, 'LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!'

23 HE ASKED, 'BUT WHAT HARM HAS HE DONE?' BUT THEY SHOUTED ALL THE LOUDER, 'LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!'

24 THEN PILATE SAW THAT HE WAS MAKING NO IMPRESSION, THAT IN FACT A RIOT WAS IMMINENT. SO HE TOOK SOME WATER, WASHED HIS HANDS IN FRONT OF THE CROWD AND SAID, 'I AM INNOCENT OF THIS MAN'S BLOOD. IT IS YOUR CONCERN.'

25 AND THE PEOPLE, EVERY ONE OF THEM, SHOUTED BACK, 'LET HIS BLOOD BE ON US AND ON OUR CHILDREN!'

26 THEN HE RELEASED BARABBAS FOR THEM. AFTER HAVING JESUS SCOURGED HE HANDED HIM OVER TO BE CRUCIFIED.

JESUS IS GIVEN THE CROWN OF THORNS AND LED TO HIS CRUCIFIXION

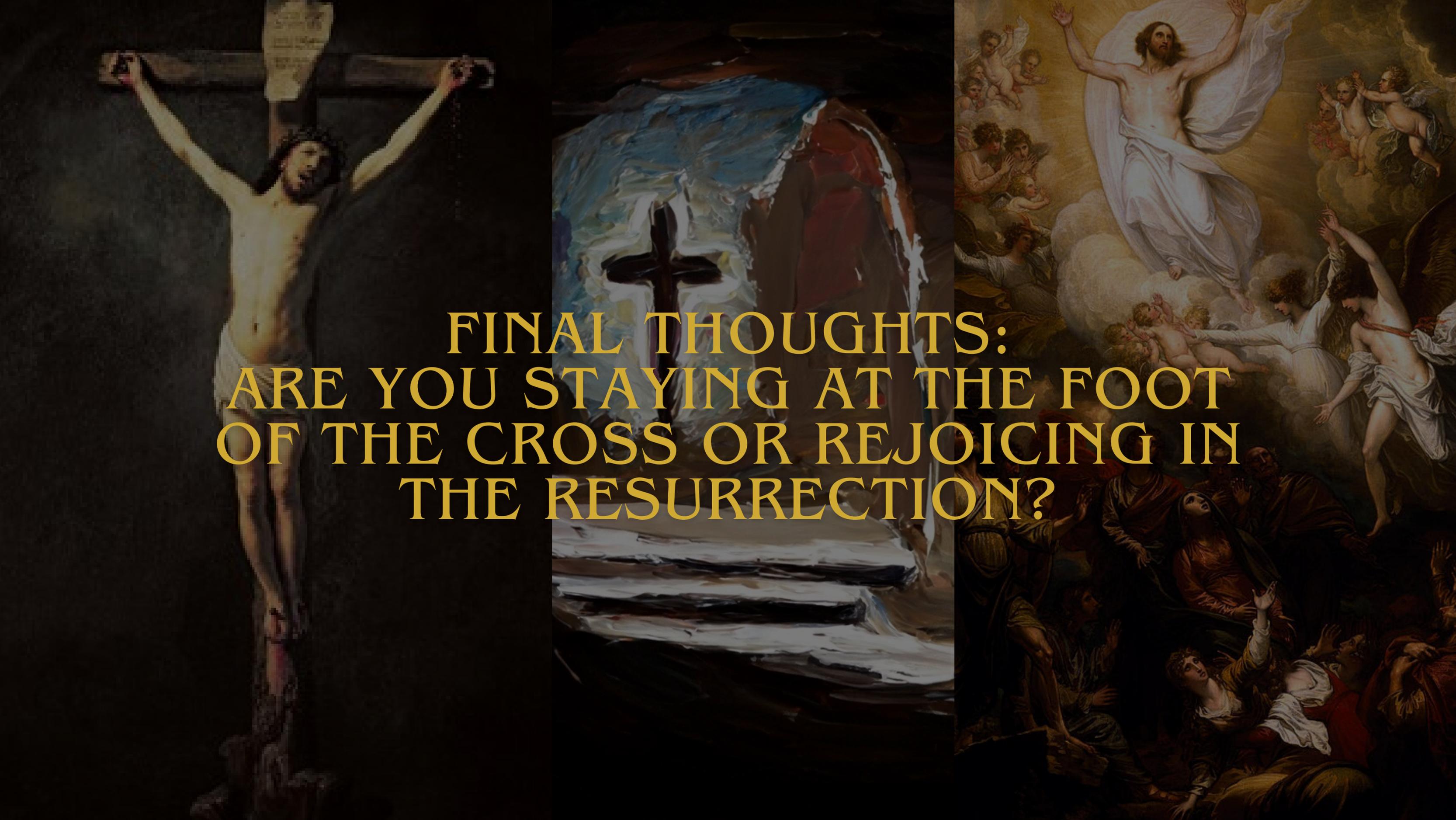
27 THEN THE GOVERNOR'S SOLDIERS TOOK JESUS WITH THEM INTO THE PRAETORIUM AND COLLECTED THE WHOLE COHORT ROUND HIM.

28 AND THEY STRIPPED HIM AND PUT A SCARLET CLOAK ROUND HIM,
29 AND HAVING TWISTED SOME THORNS INTO A CROWN THEY PUT THIS ON HIS HEAD AND PLACED A REED IN HIS RIGHT HAND. TO MAKE FUN OF HIM THEY KNELT TO HIM SAYING, 'HAIL, KING OF THE JEWS!'

30 AND THEY SPAT ON HIM AND TOOK THE REED AND STRUCK HIM ON THE HEAD WITH IT.

31 AND WHEN THEY HAD FINISHED MAKING FUN OF HIM, THEY TOOK OFF THE CLOAK AND DRESSED HIM IN HIS OWN CLOTHES AND LED HIM AWAY TO CRUCIFIXION.

MATTHEW 27: 27-31



FINAL THOUGHTS:
ARE YOU STAYING AT THE FOOT
OF THE CROSS OR REJOICING IN
THE RESURRECTION?