

"Cultural Phenomenon" Enchants the Masses - But Fails His Followers

With what some have described as a most "triumphal entry" into Jerusalem last Sunday, the widely known yet enigmatic Jesus of Nazareth arrived in the Marketplace with fanfare and celebration. Townspeople and visitors alike chanted "Jesus - Hosanna" as miracles of healing (seemingly) took place before their eyes.

And yet, before the Friday evening sound of the shofar, this same heralded conquering "Redeemer" himself was conquered by the cruel twist of a fickle public who branded him a blasphemer.

Did the masses forget their awe at the miracles? Did they determine him to be possessed by the same devil that he cast out of others? How could he heal others and yet not come down from his own cross?

This may remain just a curious footnote in our history.



The Sounding of the Sabbath

(For the many Greek visitors to our area during this season, we continue in our series of educational trivia regarding the customs of the Hebrew 'nation'.)

In the photo above, a Yemenite Jew of Jerusalem, draped in the 'talith' - the customary prayer shawl - announces the approach of the Sabbath on Friday evening by blowing a very long curved ram's horn.



Astonished crowds swarm around Jesus to witness the 'miracles'.

Today's News Quote:

"It is pretty much a cultural phenomenon; he (Jesus) went from adored miracle worker to shunned martyr in less than one week!

He was the talk of the entire nation. And now, we will never hear of him again."

--Skep Teckle

Days later, some of those same crowds agonize at the crucifixion.



Pilate angrily washes his hands of the "Jesus Issue"

"I Give Him Over to You!" - Pilate

A frustrated Governor Pontius Pilate figuratively washed the blood of controversial rebel-rouser Jesus of Nazareth off his own hands, giving the responsibility of his death sentence to the unruly crowd that had gathered early Friday morning at the Governor's palace.

The Governor had tried to avoid the confusing confrontation during his visit, insisting that King Herod should preside over this Jewish matter. Jesus was returned to Pilate, who then presented the decision of the man's fate to the people.

A spokesman for the Governor reported that Pilate had intended this visit to his vacation home to be a break from the life-changing political issues he regularly faces. "Instead" he says "his time was interrupted with much ado about nothing."

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"Keep it between the ditches with a Hustle!"