

A script from



“Our Risen Savior: Barabbas”

by
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- What** We all know what happens to Jesus after he takes the place of Barabbas, but what happened to Barabbas? Watch this interpretation of what Barabbas must have been contending with.
Themes: Redemption, Mercy, Crucifixion,
- Who** Barabbas
Levi
- When** Bible Times
- Wear (Props)** Ideally, Barabbas should be done up to look pretty rough. Unkempt beard, dirty clothes, beaten face. That’s the best case scenario, so get as close as you can. Have fun with the clothes and how weathered you can make him look.
Table
Glass of water
2 chairs
- Why** Matthew 27:15-26
- How** Barabbas should be played as someone with some degree of emotional PTSD given what has just happened. This is a man who has been in jail, was preparing to be crucified and now, not only is he free, but his place was taken by a man who was totally blameless.
- In contrast, Levi should be played much more pragmatic. As Barabbas’s associate or friend, his motivation is to get Barabbas out of town for fear of retribution from the Romans.
- Time** Approximately 3 minutes

*Levi is looking out of a "window" while **Barabbas** keeps to himself.*

Levi: They're crucifying him.

***Barabbas** continues to stare off. **Levi** looks away from the window and approaches **Barabbas**.*

Levi: Barabbas.

***Barabbas** sits unfazed.*

***Levi** sits a glass of water in front of **Barabbas**. **Barabbas** pounds it.*

Levi: They're crucifying the man that took your place.

***Barabbas** gives **Levi** a look.*

Levi: I don't mean your place. I'm not saying you should be crucified...

***Barabbas** drifts back into zoning out.*

Barabbas: Our jail cells were next to each other.

***Levi** hears something. He goes to look through the window.*

Levi: The crowd is picking up. We've gotta go...

Barabbas: There was this small hole in the wall between our cells. I could pull out a piece of it and see him...I could see everything.

***Barabbas** spends a minute thinking about this. **Levi** returns from the window and kneels at the table.*

Levi: Barabbas. The Romans may have let you go, but they aren't going to let you live.

Barabbas: They beat him. They cursed him. They spit on him...he never said a word. Never fought back.

Levi: Once we get out of town and we can find someone to treat your wounds...

Barabbas: Did you see him? What they did to him? His back? That crown...those thorns...

Levi: At least it wasn't you.

Barabbas comes out of his daze.

Barabbas: But why wasn't it?!? Why Him?

Barabbas collects himself. Levi sits across from him.

Barabbas: Why not me?

Levi: I don't know why, but if we're going to go we have to go now because...

In a flash of action, Barabbas flips over the table.

Barabbas: (Yelling) Stop!

There's a long pause.

Barabbas: ...just stop talking...and just let me...

Something finally unlocks in Barabbas' head. He finally directly addresses Levi.

Barabbas: You're right.

Levi is speechless.

Barabbas: He took my place.

BEAT as both contemplate what is happening.

Barabbas: He took my place and this changes everything.

Lights fade.