John 19:1-15 (NASB)

The Crown of Thrones



1 So Pilate then took Jesus and had Him flogged.



2 And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and placed it on His head, and put a purple cloak on Him;



3 and they repeatedly came up to Him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and slapped Him in the face again and again.



4 And then Pilate came out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing Him out to you so that you will know that I find no grounds at all for charges in His case."

5 Jesus then came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And *Pilate* said to them, "Behold, the Man!"

6 So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they shouted, saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify *Him*; for I find no grounds for charges in His case! 7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He made Himself out to be the Son of God!"



8 Therefore when Pilate heard this statement, he was *even* more afraid;



9 and he entered the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 So Pilate said to Him, "Are you not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?"

11 Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over Me at all, if it had not been given to you from above; for this reason the one who handed Me over to you has the greater sin."

12 As a result of this, Pilate made efforts to release Him; but the Jews shouted, saying, "If you release this Man, you are not a friend of Caesar; everyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes Caesar!

13 Therefore when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement—but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

14 Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Look, your King!"

15 So they shouted, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king except Caesar."