

*The Stations Of  
The Cross*

*“I Was There”*

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## **Stn 2. *Jesus Takes Up His Cross***

Mark 15:16-20 (NRSV)

<sup>16</sup> Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. <sup>17</sup> And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup> And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup> They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup> After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.



## Reflection:

When we put that purple cloak around Jesus' shoulders we had no idea. You see, we knew that we the soldiers were going to have a hard day.

So we thought.

“What the heck?”

After all, he was only a troublemaker wasn't he?

Didn't we have enough to do in this Godforsaken place?

It would all have been alright

if I had not looked into his eyes.

Response:

**I was there,  
but if I had my time again my Lord,  
I could not bear to put that cross on your shoulders.  
Forgive me my cruelty.**