

## The Easter story of Jesus in 30 sentences

Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. It was to show he wasn't proud, but he was the king.	Jesus was sent out to die, carrying his own cross through the city streets.
Huge crowds welcomed Jesus on the donkey, waving palm branches, cheering and saying, 'Hosanna, Hosanna!'	Jesus fell under the weight of the cross, and an African man called Simon from Cyrene helped him to carry it.
At the temple, Jesus threw out the moneylenders. They'd made a place of prayer into a money-market. He was really angry.	At Calvary, Jesus was crucified. Two thieves were crucified with him. Three crosses against a dark sky.
The leaders of the country of Israel plotted together to get Jesus. They wanted to shut him up. They were jealous.	Jesus prayed for his killers to be forgiven by his father, God.
On Thursday night, Jesus and the disciples ate a last meal together. Jesus washed their smelly feet - he wasn't too proud to serve.	Pilate, the Roman governor, ordered a message to be put on the cross: 'This is Jesus, the king of the Jews.'
At the table, on the last night, Jesus shared a loaf of bread with the disciples.	The soldiers played a betting game for his possessions - one robe and a few belongings.
After the bread, Jesus shared wine with them all. He said it was a reminder of his blood, poured out.	As Jesus was dying, he promised one of the thieves crucified with him, 'Today, you will be with me in paradise.'
At Gethsemane garden, Jesus prayed in agony while his three best friends fell asleep. He knew what was going to happen next.	Joseph from Arimathea took the body of Jesus and buried it in his own cave-tomb. A huge stone was rolled into the door.
Judas arrived at the garden with a gang of soldiers. He had betrayed Jesus to his enemies. He gave him away with a kiss.	On Sunday morning, Jesus' women friends set off for the tomb to put oil and spices in the grave.
Jesus was arrested and taken in chains to the courtroom. They accused him of speaking against God.	The stone was rolled away. The grave was empty. The women were puzzled, amazed and terrified.
At the courtroom, Peter followed the arresting soldiers. Servants asked him, 'Weren't you with Jesus?' He was afraid, and denied it three times.	Mary stood weeping in the garden. Then Jesus, risen from the grave, met her. She couldn't believe it. She was bursting with happiness.
Later, Peter was in tears because he felt he had failed his Lord.	Peter and John ran to the grave to see what had happened. They couldn't work out what the empty grave meant at all.
The leaders sent Jesus to the Roman governor, who was called Pilate. Only he could pass a death sentence.	The rulers and the Romans spread a rumour that Jesus' disciples had stolen his dead body and faked a 'resurrection'.
Pilate offered the crowd a choice: 'I'll set one prisoner free: Jesus, or Barabbas the murderer.' The crowd yelled for Barabbas.	Two of Jesus' disciples walking home met him, alive again. They knew it was Jesus when they saw him break bread.
Jesus was crowned with thorns by a bunch of bullying soldiers. They thought it was a joke.	On Sunday evening, Jesus met ten of his disciples. They all believed he was back from the dead now. They lived and died to prove it in the next few decades.

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