



IN THE
SHADOW
OF THE
CROSS

Herd Mentality

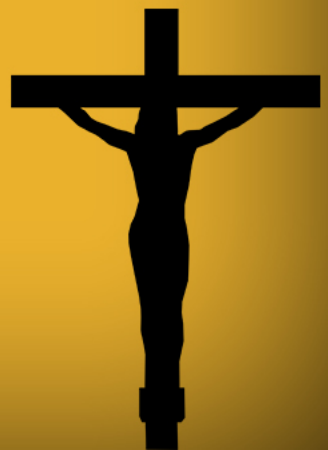
Herd Mentality (also known as mob mentality) describes behavior in which people act the same way or adopt similar behaviors as the people around them – often ignoring their own feelings in the process.

- Deindividualization



John 12:12-13

12 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. **13** So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!”



Luke 23:18-25

18 But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas” — 19 a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. 20 Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, 21 but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” 22 A third time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” 23 But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. 24 So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. 25 He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.



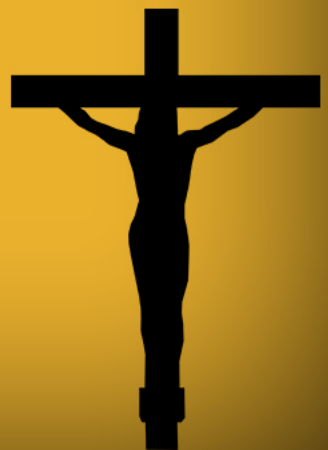
Luke 23:34-43

34 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. 35 And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."



Luke 23:34-43

42 And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” 43 And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”



Reflection

Do you relate to:

1. The crowd that met Jesus as he was entering Jerusalem?
 - Bought into the “hype” of the moment
2. Pilate and the crowd that shouted “Crucify”?
 - Responding to the false power of the crowd
3. The Criminal
 - Able to look beyond the mob and see true authority and power





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