

GOLGOTHA

GILES SWAYNE
op. 143

ANCHOR

MATTHEW

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

ORGAN

Drum

Portentous TV news jingle

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(quick fade in level)

ANCHOR

ORG.

pp

We're going over now to our Middle East correspondent Matthew Evangelis in Jerusalem, where convicted terrorist Yeshua bin Yussef was today sentenced to death by crucifixion for crimes against the state. Some viewers may find parts of Matthew's report disturbing. What can you tell us, Matt?

MATT.

Thank you, Martha. The atmosphere here in Jerusalem was tense today and the military were on high alert as Yeshua bin Yussef - known to his supporters as Jesus - was led in shackles under heavy guard from the governor's courthouse, where he had been sentenced to death for sedition & terrorist offences, into a

MATT.

public yard, where a crowd of rowdy soldiers had gathered. Mr. bin Yossef is hailed by his supporters as a charismatic leader - which is why the authorities find him a nuisance. At this post-trial appearance, after a brutal flogging, sleep deprivation, and what the Governor's spokesman described as "enhanced interrogation techniques", he was barely able to stand, and his head and body were covered with cuts & bruises. The guards (who appeared to be drunk) tore off his clothes, draped a purple cloth around his shoulders, and forced a circle of twisted thorns onto his head as a mock crown.