

Tried And Condemned

Scripture Text: John 18:28-40

Supporting Text: (Matt. 27:11-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 23:1-25)

28 Then they *led Jesus from Caiaphas into the [a]Praetorium, and it was early; and they themselves did not enter into the [b]Praetorium so that they would not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

29 Therefore Pilate went out to them and *said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"

30 They answered and said to him, "If this Man were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him to you."

31 So Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death,"

32 to fulfill the word of Jesus which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die.

33 Therefore Pilate entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

34 Jesus answered, "Are you saying this [c]on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?"

35 Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You to me; what have You done?"

36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom [d]is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not [e]of this realm."

37 Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

38 Pilate *said to Him, "What is truth?"

And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and *said to them, "I find no guilt in Him.

39 But you have a custom that I release someone [f]for you at the Passover; do you wish then that I release [g]for you the King of the Jews?"

40 So they cried out again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas." Now Barabbas was a robber.

Lesson Introduction:

John's account is not inclusive of all that happened to Jesus. The whole story is in the rest of the Gospels. There were six trials in all, three were ecclesiastical trials by the Sanhedrin. The first trial by the Sanhedrin was where Jesus was taken before Annas the patriarch of the priestly family (Jn 18:13) and Caiaphas the son in law and ruling high priest at this time. This interrogation was inconclusive. The second trial Jesus claimed to be the Divine Messiah and was charged therefore with blasphemy (Matt 26:63-66). The third trial was to legalize their proceedings. His enemies, the Sanhedrin, convened at dawn to try to get Jesus to repeat His claim of being the Divine Messiah (Luke 22:66-71).

Lesson Outline:

- I. Pilate and the Jews (Jn 18:28-32)
- II. Pilate and Jesus (Jn 18:33-38)
- III. Pilate and Justice (Jn 18:39-40)

Study Questions:

Pilate and the Jews

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32 to fulfill the word of Jesus which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die.

1. Where was Jesus taken after He appeared before Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin? He was taken to _____.
2. Why did the Jews refuse to enter the Praetorium?
3. What was hypocritical about the statement the Jews made about “lest they be defiled”?
4. When Pilate asked the Jews what charge was against Jesus how did they respond?
5. According to Luke 23:2 how did the Jews attempt to make Jesus look guilty of violating Roman law?
6. How did Pilate suggest that the Jews handle Jesus?
7. How does Matt 20:19 relate to John 18:32?

Pilate and Jesus

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8. What might have caused Pilate to ask whether He was the King of The Jews?
9. What Judicial right may Jesus have been seeking to assert when He asked Pilate the questions recorded in verse 34?
10. Why did Pilate say to Jesus “Am I a Jew” in verse 35?

11. How did Jesus show Pilate that His Kingdom did not originate on earth?
12. When Pilate asked Jesus whether He was any kind of king what did Jesus say His purpose was in coming to earth?
13. What philosophical question did Pilate ask in verse 38?

Pilate and Justice

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14. After talking with Jesus what conclusion did Pilate announce to the crowd of Jews?
15. What hearing was held between the statements in vs 38-39 and what happened to Jesus during the hearing after it took place? (Luke 23:5-12)
16. How did Pilate attempt to resolve the problem of what to do with Jesus?
17. Who was Barabas?
18. Why were the Jews wrong in asking Pilate to release him?

Conclusion:

Jesus never forgot His purpose in life and He came to bear witness of the truth. We should be reminded that this is our purpose in life also. We should be encouraged to bear witness of God's truth as it is found in His Word. Adults can be taught to consider the tremendous privilege of showing others the truth through their consistent witness for Jesus.