

18:39-19:4 What shall I do with Jesus?

Series: Who is Jesus, the Christ?

Reading – John 18:39-19:4 23th October, 2016

We looked last week at Pilate's question, "What is Truth?" (**John 18:38**) A search of man's since Genesis, the battle to know and find truth. Yet the battle isn't really to find truth or know truth, because God has spoken. He has always given us truth in no uncertain terms. He states truth openly/boldly. The battle as we see today, as with Pilate, is that the world doesn't want truth. The world, and specifically man, is looking for truth outside of God. We want our own way more than wanting truth. (We call it freedom of choice, when it is slavery to sin). Worse than not just wanting truth, the world hates truth, and it must silence truth. This is why Christ is on trial. He was a man of God, He healed people, yet they wanted to kill Him. Why? Because He pointed out the sin and hypocrisy in their lives. He labeled them as sinners. Pilate asks the question that each of us face. What shall I do with Jesus, the Man, the King, the Son of God, who came to bear witness to the Truth? Join us as we look at how Pilot fell and see what we can learn from it.

- History:

- Jews have decided to kill Jesus. Judas has been paid, the betrayal has gone through, the arrest has been made. Christ has stood in front of Annas, the power behind the position of the High Priest, then to Annas's son-in-law, Caiaphas who was the appointed High Priest who questions him, then Jesus stands in front of the Sanhedrin early in the morning.
- A rushed trail to get Him through the system. With no real witnesses and no guilt other than his statement that He was in fact the Son of God. (killed due to popularity...)
 - After Lazarus's resurrection – **John 11:47-48** ⁴⁷ Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. ⁴⁸ "If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation." (NKJV)
 - **Mat 27:18** For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. (NKJV)
- Taken to Pilot as they don't want to lay hands on Him for fear of the Jews!!!
 - **Luke 22:2** ² And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people. (NKJV)
 - Pilot is in a hard place, caught between the people and the leaders and their followers.
 - Honored Caesar with His image on Shields and then on Flags. Jews had rioted as they felt this broke the second commandment. "Thou shalt not make unto you any graven image..." Rome had told him, don't anger the Jews... There righteousness was all in keeping the points of the Law, yet it was selectively applied and modified to suit themselves. Purpose of the Law was to show transgression. (**Gal. 3:19** "added because of transgression, till the Seed should come.")
 - They weren't to make an image to worship!
 - They weren't to invent new ways to worship God, but follow His directions.
 - Golden Calf – nudity and immorality
 - Two Golden Calves **1 Kings 12:28-33** Imitating the feast of God, in violation of God's command.
 - **Deu 12:5-8** ⁵ "But you shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go. ⁶ "There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks. ⁷ "And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice in all to which you have put your hand, you and your households, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.

⁸ "You shall not at all do as we are doing here today-- every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes-- (NKJV)

- **John 4:20-21** ²⁰ "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. (NKJV)
- **2 Ch 11:15** ¹⁵ Then he appointed for himself priests for the high places, for the demons, and the calf idols which he had made. (NKJV)
- **Hebrews 10:25** ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (NKJV) I Tim. 3:14 Pillar and ground of the Truth.

- Pilot will try to release Jesus or at least get out of having to make a decision on Jesus. 6 times He will say, "I find no fault in Him."

- **Pilate's Path to Ruin.** (Politics is important!) Doesn't care about religion... 6 times No FAULT!

- **John 18:28-33** (vs. 29) What accusation do you bring against this Man?

- He is an evil doer... They are pushing this through. This is the heart of the matter, no crime but an empty hatred for the Truth. He is an evil doer...
- Are you the King of the Jews? Are you trying to be King? (**Luke 23:2** ...perverting the nation, forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King." (NKJV)
 - My kingdom is not of this world. (A mystic – a truth kingdom **Vs. 37** to bear witness to ... T)
 - **Vs. 38** I find no fault in Him.
 - No Fault **Luke 23:5** ...from Galilee to here He stirs up the people."

- **Luke 23:6** Sends Jesus to Herod's... Herod had wanted to see him for a long time. (**Herod path was to play with the Truth.**)

- Same Herod who had imprisoned John the Baptist and then murdered Him.
- **Mark 6:14-20** ¹⁴ Now King Herod heard *of Him*, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or¹ like one of the prophets." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" ¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her. ¹⁸ For John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. (NKJV)
 - Herod had heard the truth. He had responded to part of the message, but he hadn't given His life over to God! **Hebrews 6:3-6** Impossible to renew them to repentance.
 - Holy fear of the Truth and God's Sovereignty.
- **Luke 23:6-12** ⁶ When Pilate heard of Galilee¹, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. ⁷ And as soon as he knew that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. ⁹ Then he questioned Him with many words, but He answered him nothing. ¹⁰ And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him. ¹¹ Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked *Him*, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent Him back to Pilate. ¹² That very day Pilate and Herod became friends with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other. (NKJV)

- Release Barabbas. son of the father Vs. the true Son. **Luke 23:19** (Jailed for rebellion and murder) A murderer versus the giver of life. Christ had testified that they were of their father the devil.

- Jesus's Harsh description – **John 8:44** ⁴⁴ "You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. (NKJV)
- So here they show their true lineage, they were sons of their father the devil.
 - God shows us the truth, behind the curtain. The world is not made up of "good" people. It isn't even made up of indifferent people.
 - **Romans 3:12** ¹² They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one¹." (NKJV)
 - **Luke 23:1-2** ¹ Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Him to Pilate. ² And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this *fellow* perverting the¹ nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King." (NKJV)
 - Why did Pilate release a prisoner? Please the Jews & Imitate God???
 - God's commanded the feast to remember His righteous judgment on Egypt and mercy to Israel through the covering of blood. A oneness, and escape when under the blood.
 - Here Pilate's plan will forfeit Justice, kill the Son of God, bring Judgment on Israel, and put Israel outside of the covering. (Man's Plan) (Not that a Jew can't be saved, but Rom 11 blindness in part has happened to Israel)
 - Yet in God's plan: **Romans 3:25-26** ²⁵ whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (NKJV)
 - The true sacrifice for sin was given.
 - Yet the Passover would now bring salvation to the gentiles.
 - **Psalms 76:10** ¹⁰ Surely the wrath of man shall praise You; With the remainder of wrath You shall gird Yourself. (NKJV)

As we think on our Lives, we must ask how we are responding to the truth. This isn't some intellectual exercise. The world is turning against Christ again. Truth is once again being shouted down. We learn these lessons for our good. Will we submit to the true Passover Lamb or will we look to devise our own version of truth? May we all remain faithful to Him.