

## Part I: "Behold The King of Kings!"

John 18:38-40 – 19:1-17

By The Time Jesus Reaches This Point He Has Been Put On Trial 6x!

- 1) Trial Before Annas & Minority Of Sanhedrin (The Father-In-Law Of Caiaphas & Co-High Priest)  
**Verdict:** Insufficient Evidence – John 18:12-14 & 19-24
- 2) Trial Before Caiaphas & Minority Of Sanhedrin  
**Verdict:** Blasphemy – Matthew 26:57-68 & Mark 14:53-65
- 3) Trial Before Caiaphas & Majority Of Sanhedrin  
**Verdict:** Guilty – Matthew 27:1, Mark 15:1, & Luke 22:66-71
- 4) 1<sup>st</sup> Trial Before Pontius Pilate  
**Verdict:** Not Guilty – Matthew 27:11-23, Mark 15:1-14, Luke 23:1-5, & 13-22, & John 18:28-19:7
- 5) Trial Before Herod Antipas  
**Verdict:** Insufficient Evidence – Luke 23:6-12
- 6) 2<sup>nd</sup> Trial Before Pontius Pilate  
**Verdict:** Not Guilty – Matthew 27:24-26, Mark 15:15, Luke 23:23-25, & John 19:8-16

Pontius Pilate Repeatedly Tries To Release Jesus

Because He Can Find No Fault Or Crime Committed By Jesus! (Chapters 18 & 19 of John)

Pilate's First Attempt To Set Jesus Free Was The Gesture Of Amnesty

He Offered To The People By Letting Them Choose Between Jesus & Barabbas.

Pilate said to Jesus, "Truth, What Is Truth?" And when Pilate had said this, he went out again to the Jews, & said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was an insurrectionist.

John 18:38-40 (NKJV)

Pilate's Second Attempt To Set Jesus Free Is To Leave Jesus' Fate In The Hands Of Herod

Because He Was Known As A Galilean Being From The Town Of Nazareth

Which Was Under Herod's Jurisdiction Of Authority As King Over The People.

When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. 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 ...Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt & mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, & sent Him back to Pilate. That very day Pilate & Herod became friends with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other.

Luke 23:6-7 & 11-12 (NASB)

Pilate's Third Attempt To Set Jesus Free Is An Act Of Punishment

To Publicly Humiliate & Chastise Jesus By Scourging Him.

Verse :1 Pilate then took Jesus & scourged Him.

This is Clarified In Luke's Gospel Account

Then Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, & the people, said to them, "You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him; no, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him; & indeed nothing deserving of death has been done by Him. I will therefore chastise Him & release Him!"

Luke 23:13-16 (NASB)

Three Levels Of Punishment By Scourging In Increasing Severity

Could Be Ordered By Pilate For His Guards To Carry Out

- 1) "Fustigatio" – A Beating Of A Less Severe Kind Meant To Teach A Harsh Lesson
- 2) "Flagellatio" – A Flogging Or Worse Beating Meant To Inflict Lots Of Pain And Bruising
- 3) "Verberatio" – A Scourging Of Immense Torture, Meant To Inflict Great Pain & To Leave Permanent Disfigurement

**John 19:1: “So Then Pilate Took Jesus & Scourged Him.”**

The Order Given In Latin By Pilate For The Word Scourge Was “Verberatio”

**Q: “Why Did Pilate Pick So Harsh A Treatment If He Actually Thought Jesus Was Innocent & Really Wanted To Let Him Go Free?”**

- A1) A Final Attempt To Cause Sympathy, Empathy, & Compassion To Stir In The Hearts & Minds Of The Jewish Authorities & People In Order To Find A Way To Set Jesus Free!**
- A2) At The Same Time To Show He Was In Control & He Still Meant Business As The Roman Governor! The Rest of Chapter 19 Of The Gospel Of John Is Written Not Only To Tell The Details Of Jesus’ Crucifixion & Death But To Declare Jesus Is The “King Of Kings” 7x Times In 7x Different Ways!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Declaration Of Jesus As King**

**“All Hail, King of the Jews!”**

**Verses 2 – 3: And the soldiers twisted together a Crown of Thorns & put it on His Head & they put a Purple Robe on Him; & they began to come up to Him & say, “All Hail, King of the Jews!” & they slapped Him in the face.**

**The Roman Guards Taunted & Ridiculed Jesus By Dressing Him In The Purple Robe Given To Jesus By Herod Antipas’ Soldiers. They Decide To Add A Crown & Scepter To Further The Mockery & Humiliation Of Declaring Jesus To Be A King!**

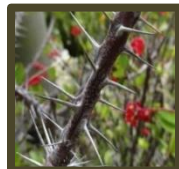
The crown they would have added would not have been the crown of thorns commonly thought of from a rose bush or some other small thorn bearing plant but rather would have been the great Four to Six-Inch-Long Thorns from the Jerusalem Date Palm Tree. Thus, Jesus would have had a great headdress or crown like a great ruler! It would have made Jesus really stand out! As the guards begin to mock Jesus, they unknowingly were affirming the Truth of the Word of God that Jesus Christ is indeed God’s Only Son & The King of Israel & Subsequently The King of the Whole World!

**(Handout)**

**Show Rose Bush Vs. Date Palm Pictures**



**Common Rose Bush**



**Jerusalem Date Palm**



**Crown of Thorns**



**Our King’s Glory**

**Pilate Brings Jesus Out Again To Once Again Declare That He Still Finds No Fault In Jesus & Wishes To Set Him Free!**

**Verses 4 – 5: Pilate came out again & said to them, “Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him!” Jesus then came out, wearing the Crown of Thorns & the Purple Robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold, the Man!”**

**“Behold the Man!”**

**Can You Hear The Echo Of The Words Of The Prophet Zechariah Spoken Hundreds Of Years Before Looking Forward To This Very Moment:**

**“Then they will look on Me Whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for His Only Son & grieve for Him as one grieves for a Firstborn!”** Zechariah 12:9-10 (NKJV)

**“Behold the Man!”**

**Can You Hear The Echo Of The Words Of The Evangelist Of John’s Gospel Declaring Once Again In The Prelude To The Gospel**

**“And the Word became Flesh (Behold The God – Man) & dwelt among us, & we beheld His Glory, the Glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of Grace & Truth!”** John 1:14 (NKJV)

**Verses 6 – 7:** So when the chief priests & the officers saw **Him**, they cried out saying, “**Crucify Him, crucify Him!**” Pilate said, “**Take Him yourselves & crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him!**” The Jews answered him, “**We have a law, & by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God!**”

The Jewish Leaders Want Jesus Crucified & Dead. They Claim Their Law Does Not Allow Blasphemy Declaring Oneself To Be God In The Flesh. Then They Tell Pilate That Jesus Claimed To Be God Come Down To Earth In The Person Of The Son Of God, Thereby He Becomes A Rival To Caesar As Well!

**Verse 8:** Therefore, when Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid.

**Q: “But Why Was Pilate So Afraid?”**

**A1) That The People Might Rise Up & Revolt**

**A2) That He Would Be Found Guilty Of Allowing A Revival To Caesar As A King**

**A3) That Jesus Might Actually Be God Come Down To Earth In The Flesh**

Notice, Pilate fearing a revolt or uprising was at hand, decides to continue

His questioning of Jesus inside the confines of his palace fortress!

**Verse 9:** Pilate again entered the Praetorium & said to **Jesus**,

“**Where are You from?**” But **Jesus** gave him no answer.

**Q: “But Why Did Jesus Remain Silent?”**

**A:** Because Jesus Already Had Answered That He Is Indeed God Come Down To Dwell

In Human Form By His Past Answer To Pilate During The Earlier First Trial’s Questioning!

“**My Kingdom is not of this world. If My Kingdom were of this world, My Servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My Kingdom is not from here. You say rightly that I AM a King. For this cause I was born, & for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear Witness to the Truth. Everyone who is of the Truth hears My Voice.**” **John 18:36-37 (NKJV)**

**Pilate Tries To Demonstrate His Authority Over The Situation & Over Jesus!**

**Verse 10:** So Pilate said to **Him**, “**You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have the power to crucify You and the power to release You?**”

**Jesus Again Answers That He Is Indeed God Come Down To Dwell In Human Form By His Authority Over Pilate!**

**Verse 11:** **Jesus** answered, “**You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from Above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.**”

**And Once Again Pilate Sought To Release Him!**

**But The Jewish Authorities Would Have None Of That!**

The Jewish Religious Leaders make a claim that strikes even greater fear into Pilate’s heart.

But unknowingly they once again prove to be the prophetic voice of God declaring that Jesus is a King:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Declaration Of Jesus As King**

**“Whoever makes Himself a King speaks against Caesar!”**

**Verse 12:** From then on Pilate sought a way to release **Him**, but the Jews cries out, “**If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar’s friend!**” **“Whoever makes Himself a King speaks against Caesar!”**

**Pilate Is Finally Forced To Make A Judgement!**

**Verse 13:** Therefore, when Pilate heard these words, he brought **Jesus** out, & sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The “**Pavement**”, but in Hebrew, “**Gabbatha**”.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Declaration Of Jesus As King**

**“Behold, Your King!”**

**Verse 14:** Now it was the Day of Preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews, “**Behold, Your King!**”

**Q: “What Was Pilate’s Mind Set When He Made This Prophetic Declaration?”**

**A1) Unknowingly Prophetic - A2) Openly Mocking**

**A3) Curiously Wondering - A4) Beginning To Believe**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Declaration Of Jesus As King Reinforced**  
***“Shall I crucify Your King?”***

**Verse 15a-b:** But the Jews cried out, ***“Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!”***  
Pilate replied, ***“Shall I crucify Your King?”***

**Rejection Of Jesus As King**

**Verse 15c:** But the chief priests cried out, ***“We have no king but Caesar!”***

**Pilate Transfers The Power & Responsibility Of The Condemnation & Death Of Jesus  
Onto The Jews By Delivering Jesus Over To Them To Be Crucified!**

**Verse 16 – 17:** So, Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified. They took Jesus, & He went out, bearing His Own Cross, to the place called the ***“Place of a Skull”***, which is called in Hebrew, ***“Golgotha”***.

**Today I Have Witnessed Jesus Being**

Mis Tried, Lied About, Slandered, Mocked, & Found Guilty  
Even Though He Was In Fact A Completely Innocent Man!

**Today I Have Also Witnessed Jesus**

Called A King – A Godly King, But Mockingly & Unknowingly!

**The Reality Of Our Modern Day**

**Truth:** The Rule of Law & Innocence Perishes – When Lies & Evil Are Allowed To Persist!

**Justice:** The Justice Of God Is Corrupted When God’s People Adopt  
The World’s Version Of Truth & Justice & Try To Wield It In God’s Name!

**Love:** The True Love Of God Remains Hidden, When God’s People Give In To The World’s  
Form Of Love Or Remain Silent About His Selfless Love For All People!

**Q:** ***“So What Do I Do With All That I Have Heard & Witnessed Today!”***

**A:** I Will Weigh The Evidence, Follow Logic & Reason, & Pray To Know The Truth Jesus Is Speaking To Me!

**A:** I Will Hear From Him In His Word & In Prayer & I Will Reject The World’s Labels, & Rhetoric,  
As I Know Who The Ruler Of This World Is - The Evil One!

**A:** I Will Ask Others What They Think About All That They See & Hear Going On In The World Today?

**A:** I Will Listen Intently, With Compassion & Empathy!

**A:** I Will Take It All In, So I Can Understand Where They Are,  
What They Have Experienced, & What They Are Truly Feeling!

**A:** Today Satan Is Copying His Own Battle Plans That He Once Used In Jesus’ Day!  
Back Then, He Only Had To Convince The People Of Israel That Jesus Was Not Their Answer!

**A:** Today, Satan Has To Convince The Whole World That Jesus Is Not The Answer!  
So Today He Causes World Wide Panic, World Wide Doubt, World Wide Fear Of Destruction,  
World Wide Chaos, World Wide Disrespect For The Law, For Liberty, & For Life!

**A:** And Then Satan Invents Causes & Crusades, Confined To His Methods & His Employment  
To Be The Only Solutions Of Fixing The Chaos & Problems He incited In The First Place!

**A:** What We Do Next, & How We Do It Next,  
Determines Whether People See The World In Us,  
Or The Lord Jesus Christ Our King In Us!

**A:** So, Let’s Start With A New Movement!

# God’s Love - God’s Way

# God’s Justice - God’s Kingdom

@ Crossway Church - Clinton, New Jersey

**When Christ The King Does Returns**

- 1) May He Truly Find Us Loving Him & Others With **God’s Love!**
- 2) May He Truly Find Us Diligent Doing **God’s Will** – Serving Others In His Name!
- 3) May He Truly Find Us Mediating **God’s Justice** To Everyone!
- 4) May He Find Us Advancing **God’s Kingdom** On Earth  
By Our Active Engagement In Our Community!
- 5) May He Find Us **Faithful!**