

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." John 19:7 (ESV)

From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.... John 19:12-16 (ESV)

And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him. Mark 15:20 (ESV)

# MARK THE KING AND THE CROSS

## Mark 15:1-20 – Jesus Before Pilate

October 25, 2020

### 1. Jesus was silent before Pilate when he was accused.

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. Mark 15:1 (ESV)

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. John 18:28 (ESV)

So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" John 18:29 (ESV)

They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." John 18:30 (ESV)

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." John 18:31 (ESV)

And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." Luke 23:2 (ESV)

And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." Mark 15:2 (ESV)

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. John 18:33-38 (ESV)

And the chief priests accused him of many things. Mark 15:3 (ESV)

## 4. What lessons can I learn?

### A. When the world is falling apart, God is still in complete control.

### B. Jesus' trial before Pilate shows the gospel story.

### Life Group Questions

1. What stood out to you in this message? What did you learn that you didn't know?
2. If Jesus had been interested in avoiding execution, what defense might He have offered before Pilate? Why did He remain silent?
3. What did the Sanhedrin hope to accomplish in Jesus' trial? What did Pilate sense was wrong with Jesus' trial?
4. The Sanhedrin manipulated the crowd to achieve their ends. Manipulation of crowds is something we see in politics today. Have you been in a situation where a group did something the individuals in it later regretted? How did this get started? How can it be avoided?
5. If you have seen the movie, The Passion Of The Christ, did it go too far in its depiction of Jesus' physical suffering? Jesus was physically beaten, psychologically ridiculed, abandoned by God, and mortally executed. How do these torments compare? Which one was the worst? Why? How does knowing what Jesus went through to save you change the way you feel about Him?
6. Jesus died in Barabbas' place. That is what Jesus came to do. He came to die in the place of sinners so we can go free. Read these verses and in your own words describe what they tell us about what Jesus came to do. 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18, Isaiah 53:5.
7. The sinful choices of the Jewish leadership couldn't destroy God's good plans for His Son. Instead, God used their sin as part of achieving his good purposes. Read Genesis 50:15-21 with emphasis on verse 20. How did the same thing happen in Joseph's life? How does this give us hope when people sin against us and our lives fall apart?

And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." Mark 15:4 (ESV)

But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. Mark 15:5 (ESV)

And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. Luke 23:7 (ESV)

When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Luke 23:8–10 (ESV)

And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. Luke 23:11–12 (ESV)

## 2. Jesus died in the place of a sinner.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him." Luke 23:13–16 (ESV)

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. Mark 15:6 (ESV)

And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. Mark 15:7 (ESV)

And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. Mark 15:8 (ESV)

And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" Mark 15:9 (ESV)

For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. Mark 15:10 (ESV)

Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream." Matthew 27:19 (ESV)

But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. Mark 15:11 (ESV)

And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." Mark 15:12–13 (ESV)

And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." Mark 15:14 (ESV)

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. Mark 15:15 (ESV)

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Matthew 27:24 (ESV)

## 3. Jesus was mocked.

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. Mark 15:16 (ESV)

And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. Mark 15:17 (ESV)

And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,... Matthew 27:28 (ESV)

...and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand... Matthew 27:29 (ESV)

And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Mark 15:18 (ESV)

And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. Mark 15:19 (ESV)

I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. Isaiah 50:6 (ESV)

And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." John 19:2–4 (ESV)

As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind— Isaiah 52:14 (ESV)

So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" John 19:5 (ESV)

When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." John 19:6 (ESV)