

What Shall I Do with Jesus?

Matthew 27:11-26

The Trials of Jesus:

1. John 18:12-14, 19-23. Jesus is questioned by Annas, the former high priest and father-in-law of Caiaphas the high priest.
2. Mark 14:53, 55-65; Matthew 26:57, 59-68; Luke 22:54, 63-65; John 18:24. Jesus is brought to Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin. He admits to being the Christ, the Son of the blessed (God), and is condemned.
3. Mark 15:1; Matthew 27:1; Luke 22:66-71. After Dawn, Jesus is formally condemned by the Sanhedrin since the actions taken at night were invalid.
4. Mark 15:1-5; Matthew 27:2, 11-14; Luke 23:1-5; John 18:28-38. Jesus is brought to Pilate who finds no guilt in him.
5. Luke 23:6-12. When Pilate hears that Jesus preached in Galilee, he sent him to Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch, who questioned Jesus at length. Jesus did not answer.
6. Mark 15:6-15; Matthew 27:15-26; Luke 23:13-25; John 18:39-19:16. Pilate examines Jesus the second time, offers to release Barabbas, and ultimately delivers Jesus to be crucified.¹

Big Idea: Just as Pilate was confronted with the dilemma of what to do with Jesus of Nazareth, every person must confront the claims concerning him and make a decision.

Outline:

We can try to turn the decision away. Matthew 27:1-2, 11-14; Luke 23:1-5, 22; John 18:28-38.

We can try to compromise. Luke 23:22.

But we cannot escape the responsibility of making a decision concerning Jesus. Acts 4:27-28; Psalm 2; John 3:18-21, 12:48;

¹ Based on Robertson, A. T. *A Harmony of the Gospels*. Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2009. Print.

² Wiersbe, Warren W. *The Bible Exposition Commentary*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996. Print.

According to Warren Wiersbe:

“Pilate knew what was right, but refused to do anything about it. He was “willing to please the people” (Mark 15:15). Judas yielded to *the devil* in his great sin (John 13:2, 27); Peter yielded to *the flesh* when he denied his Lord; but Pilate yielded to *the world* and listened to the crowd. Pilate looked for the easy way, not the right way. He has gone down in history as the man who condemned Jesus.”²

Ecce homo by Antonio Ciseri³



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