

“What Shall I Do Then With Jesus”
Matthew 27:1-26 (v. 22)

Introduction: In the context of the Scripture we see how Pilate was forced to face an eternal issue and make a personal decision regarding Jesus Christ. After receiving all of the facts about this man called Christ, time had come for Pilate to make up his own decision of what he would do with Jesus. This dilemma led him to make the statement, “What shall I do then with Jesus?” This is the topic now for this sermon. First, let us look at the facts as Pilate did.

1. Jesus is King Matthew 27:1-2, 11
 - a. Three claims against Christ had been brought to Pilate about Jesus. Pilate focused on the third charge—that Jesus claimed to be a king—because this was a definite threat to Rome.
 - b. Luke 23:2- *“And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.”*
 - c. Jesus then asked Pilate a question about his question.
 - d. John 18:34-37
 - e. Was Pilate thinking of “kingship” in the Roman sense? If so, then Jesus is not that kind of a king. Jesus explained to the governor that His kingdom was not of this world, that He had no armies, that His followers did not fight. Rather, His kingdom was a reign of truth. This conversation convinced Pilate that Jesus was not a dangerous revolutionary.
2. Jesus is Christ Matthew 27:17
 - a. Luke 2:11- *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”*
 - b. Luke 2:26- *“And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”*
3. Jesus is Innocent Matthew 27:17-18, 22-23
 - a. Pontius Pilate was the sixth Roman procurator to serve in Judea. He was not liked by the Jews because he did things that deliberately violated their Law and provoked them. He was not above killing people to accomplish his purposes.
 - b. Luke 13:1- *“There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.”*
4. Jesus is Just Matthew 27:19

Body: Pilate was faced with a decision that Joshua had proclaimed many years ago. “Choose you this day whom ye will serve.” Would Pilate serve the people and their opinions, or would he accept Christ as the King?

- I. Some Received Jesus
 - a. The Woman at the Well John 4:29- *“Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?”*
 - b. A Man in the Multitude with a Son Mark 9:24- *“And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.”*
 - c. A Man Blind from His Birth John 9:38- *“And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.”*

- d. Martha John 11:27- *“She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.”*

II. Some Reject Jesus

- a. The People Matthew 27:25- *“Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.”*
- b. The Elders, Chief Priests, and Scribes Luke 9:22- *“Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.”*
- c. A Generation Luke 17:25- *“But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.”*
- d. Agrippa Acts 26:28- *“Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”*

Conclusion: Just like Pilate, you will face the same decision. What will you do with Jesus?

1. Will You Cast Him Out of Your Sight? Luke 23:7
2. Will You Allow Others to Make the Choice for You? Matthew 27:17 (Barabbas or Jesus)
 - a. One man was a guilty man and the other man was a godly man
 - b. One man hurt people and the other man helped people
 - c. One man was a violent man and the other man was a virtuous man
 - d. One man was a robber and the other man was a redeemer
 - e. One man taught us how to fight and the other man taught us how to forgive
3. Will You Cleanse Yourself from Him? Matthew 27:24
4. Will You Crucify Him? Matthew 27:26