

John 18:28-19:16
Avoiding the Pitfalls of the Past
(Pt. 4)

INTRO: By God's grace, we should *remember* faithful saints of old and *imitate* their faith (Heb. 13:7; 1 Cor. 11:1) but we must also *avoid* the sinful pitfalls of the past (1 Cor. 10:6f; Jude 5f).

Understanding Pilate's past "mistakes/offenses"
helps you to better grasp John's "Trial of the Ages" narrative.

I) **Pilate's** _____ **Beginning.**

II) **Pilate's Sacrilegious** _____.

III) **Pilate's Galilean** _____.

(I'll highlight mistake four a bit later)

IV) **Pilate's** _____ **Slaughter.**

Avoiding the Pitfalls of the Past: Lessons Learned from the Infamous Pontius Pilate

1) **James 4:17. Whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is _____.**

2) **The Right Thing to Do is Often _____.**

3) **Galatians 6:7. Do not be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that he will also _____.**

For Further Reflection/Application: *Lord help us to be doers of the Word and not just hearers!*

What is the most important thing you heard today? How were you encouraged, challenged, and/or convicted? What do you want to study further as a result of today's message?

Read Hebrews 13:7; 1 Cor. 10:6-14; 11:1. Jude 5-7. How do these passages underscore today's sermon?

Memorize James 4:17.

Why does the Biblical text often seem so distant from the student of Scripture today? Talk about why it is important to understand the historical background and the context of any given passage of Scripture. Why do so many preachers teach and preach Scripture in such a superficial manner?

How did Pontious Pilate's past mistakes put extra pressure on him to compromise? Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation? How can we put the past in the past, so it does not unduly impact the present/future?

When is the last time you experienced a "James 4:17 moment of truth?" When you're tempted to compromise and not do the right thing what should you remember from this sermon (series)?

What is cancel culture? How does this relate to the first two application points from today's message? How does the LGBTQ machine seek to manipulate "conservative/bible-believing" Christians to compromise their convictions/morals/beliefs?

Why is the right thing often the hardest thing to do? Why is doing the "right thing" always the Christ-like thing to do? What can believers do to try and apply these principles to their own unique situation?

What songs underscore some of the main points from today's message?

What is the relationship between timeless (doctrinal) truths and ancient history? What are the practical benefits of having a better grasp of the *historical context* when studying the Word of God? "We can ignore history, and thus doom ourselves to understanding our own small world as reflecting nature, just the way things are, and by so doing doom ourselves to be enslaved to the forces around us that remain unseen but which nonetheless exert a powerful pressure on us. Or we can study history, and in so doing, simultaneously relativize ourselves and our times and, ironically, somewhat liberate ourselves in such a way that we understand more of our world and how we fit into it. Only the man who knows the forces that shape the way he thinks is capable of resisting how those forces; and history is a great help in identifying and exposing such hidden things" (Carl Trueman)."

REVIEW: If Jesus is the King of the Jews (the Son of God) what difference does it make? What is the nature of Christ's Kingdom? Is the Divine King the Lord of your life?

Who are the primary bad actors in the trial of Christ? What were the bad intentions that the biblical text exposes?

In effort to appreciate the historical integrity and the spiritual riches of the four Gospels it helps to understand some key things about the earthly powers that be. Be it Pontious Pilate, King Herod and sons, the dishonorable house of Annas, and/or the sinister Sanhedrin. Note Luke 1:1-7; Luke 2:1-3; Luke 3:1-4; Matthew 2.

No less than 5 Factors Contributed to the “Bad Blood” between the Jews and Rome:

- 1) Taxes, Taxes, Taxes.
- 2) Roman Occupation and the Loss of National Sovereignty.
- 3) Dirty Politics and Bad Actors.
- 4) Unkosher Policies; such as “Romanization.”
- 5) At times, the Jewish Populace itself; (Acts 7:51).

John 18:12-14, 19-24 (note sermon July 16, 2023)
Even During a Miscarriage of Justice of Unparalleled Proportions, the LORD Reigns!

- 1) The Dishonorable House of Annas (John 18:12-14; Mark 15:10)
- 2) The Great Inquisition. (John 18:19-20; 19:6-7; Luke 23:3)
- 3) The Table-Turning Questions. (John 18:21-23)
- 4) The Pointless Change of Venue. (John 18:24; this is a kangaroo court)

Peter’s tragic denial unfolds in three, unforgettable scenes:

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| Scene 1/Strike 1 | (John 18:15-17) |
| Scene 2/Strike 2 | (John 18:25) |
| Scene 3/Strike 3 | (John 18:26-27) |

If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared. Psalm 130:3-4 See July 23, 2023 sermon.

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