

John 18:38b-19:7
The 'Not Guilty' Conundrum.

INTRO: When was the last time you found yourself between a rock and a hard place?

When doing/saying what you knew was right would lead to personal loss and/or suffering?

What is the relationship between *faith* and *faithfulness*?

I. Pilate's Impartial _____.

(John 18:38; 19:4; 19:6).

II. Pilate's Everybody _____ **Proposal.**

(John 18:39-40).

III. Pilate's Appeasement _____.

(John 19:1-7).

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?

When was the last time you found yourself between a rock and a hard place? When doing/saying what you knew was right, would lead to personal loss and suffering? Talk a little bit about Pontius Pilate's "Not-Guilty" Conundrum. Recall "the Bad Boys of Scripture" study (Pilate, Herod Antipas, etc). How does historical background help us better appreciate and more accurately interpret the Scriptures? How does James 4:17 and 2 Timothy 3:12 relate to this morning's sermon text and to our own real-world conundrums?

What is the relationship between faith and faithfulness? Recap what you heard in today's sermon conclusion.

What verdict have you reached concerning the accused defendant Jesus? If Jesus truly is the sinless, Son of God and the long-awaited Savior-King what difference should this make in your daily life?

The true Believer/Disciples' Gospel Confession: John 3:36; *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

Romans 10:8-14; *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart "-- that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart one believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses, resulting in salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him; for "Whoever will call upon the name of the LORD will be saved." How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?*

How does the Son of God's faith and obedience encourage our hearts, especially when going through times of testing? (Note Hebrew 12:1-3)

How can I make deep and regular contemplations of the cross part of my regular spiritual disciplines? What happens when I lose sight of "Thy thorn crowned brow?"

What hymns and praise songs relate to this morning's sermon? Listen to these songs as you worship and serve the spotless, Lamb of God this week.

Ask some of your unsaved friends how they'd answer the ultimate question: "What IS Truth?" Let Pastor Caleb know what you discover/hear/find out.

What did Pilate hope to accomplish by sending Jesus to his rival Herod Antipas? Note Luke 23.

John 18:28f Outline

1) The Lamb's Death March for Life.

(*John 18:28; Isaiah 53:7-8; Mark 10:45; Luke 9:51*)

2) The Trial Within the Trial.

(*John 18:29-31*)

3) The "What Sinners Intend for Evil, God Works for Good" Reminder.

(*John 18:32; Acts 2:22-4*)

4) The Royal Interrogation.

(What kind of King are you? Is Jesus the King of the Jews? *John 18:33*)

5) The Ultimate Life and Death Question

(What do YOU believe about Jesus? *John 18:34; Matthew 16:13-18*)

6) The Indignant Counter-Questions.

(*John 18:35, 37-38*)

7) The Nature of Jesus' Glorious Kingdom!

(*John 18:36, 37b; Mt. 6:10-11; Col. 1:12-14; Rev. 19-20*)

8) The Cynical (What IS Truth?) Question.

(*John 18:38*)

9) The Not-Guilty Conundrum

(*John 18:38b-19:7*)

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