

“The Murder of Jesus”

“Pilate 2.0”

Luke 23:13-25

August 25, 2024

Passion Week								Month of Nisan 1 st month of Hebrew Calendar. (Exodus 12:2) (March/April)	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
Jesus arrived in Bethany yesterday (Saturday), and on Sunday the crowds visit Jesus and Lazarus in Bethany, which upset the Jewish leaders (John 12:9-20).	Select the sacrificial lamb. Exodus 12:3 “On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves...” Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey colt a.k.a. Palm Monday (John 12:12) also see Matt. 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:9-20) Jesus visits the temple, looked around, and heals many Jesus returns to Bethany for the evening	Jesus curses the Fig Tree (divine judgment re: Israel) Jesus cleanses the Temple again, He overturned tables, seats, and prevented people from using the temple as a shortcut Jesus’ conversation with Greeks (John 12:20-36) God the Father audibly speaks, and everyone hears (John 12:28-33) Jesus talks about His coming death and the unbelief of the Jews	Withered Fig tree is seen again (Mark 11) Jesus teaches all day in the Temple grounds. Jewish leaders official challenge of Christ’s authority Jesus tells parables to the chief priests, scribes and Pharisees on the Temple grounds Jewish leaders plot to kill Him Jesus teaches the Olivet Discourse to the Disciples See chapters Matthew 21-25; Mark 11-13; Luke 19-21; John 12	Jesus sends Peter and John to prepare for the Passover meal. Note: Jews from Galilee (northern Israel) celebrate Passover on Thursday after sunset. Jesus & disciples Last Supper The Upper Room Discourse and Jesus High Priestly Prayer Jesus and Disciples go to Mount of Olives (Garden of Gethsemane) overnight to pray. See chapters Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; John 13-18	6 Trials of Jesus (3 Jewish then 3 Roman) The Passover day. Jews from Judea (southern Israel) would celebrate Passover on Friday. Sacrifice the lamb. Exodus 12:6 “You shall keep it until the fourteenth day...to kill it at twilight” and Deut 16:6 Jesus is crucified. Jesus’ body put in Joseph’s tomb before sunset. Day 1.	Jesus’ body in the tomb Day 2. Jewish Feast of Unleavened bread continues for 7 days	Jesus’ body in the tomb Day 3. Jesus is resurrected Post-resurrection and appearances over the next 40 days to over 500 people		
								Note 1: Biblical days don’t start/end at midnight. See slide below for an explanation of Galilean and Judean start/end Sunrise/Sunset	
								Note 2: For details on what happened during the hours of Thursday and Friday see the below graphic	



Christ’s 6 Trials

Religious or Civil	Order	Scripture	Judge	Ruling
Religious-Jewish	1	John 18:12-14	Annas	Ok given to kill Jesus
Religious-Jewish	2	Matt. 26:57-68	Caiaphas	Blasphemy
Religious-Jewish	3	Matt. 27:1-2	Sanhedrin	Death sentence
Civil-Roman	4	John 18:28-38a	Pilate	No guilty
Civil-Roman	5	Luke 23:6-12	Herod	Not guilty
Civil-Roman	6	John 18:38b–19:16	Pilate	Not guilty but Jesus turned over to Jews

Luke 23:8-12

- 8 Now Herod was very glad when he saw Jesus; for he had wanted to see Him for a long time, because he had been hearing about Him and was hoping to see some sign performed by Him.
- 9 And he questioned Him at some length; but He answered him nothing.
- 10 And the chief priests and the scribes were standing there, accusing Him vehemently.
- 11 And Herod with his soldiers, after treating Him with contempt and mocking Him, dressed Him in a gorgeous robe and sent Him back to Pilate.
- 12 Now Herod and Pilate became friends with one another that very day; for before they had been enemies with each other.

Luke 23:13-25

13 Pilate summoned the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

14 and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who incites the people to rebellion, and behold, having examined Him before you, I have found no guilt in this man regarding the charges which you make against Him.

15 "No, nor has Herod, for he sent Him back to us; and behold, nothing deserving death has been done by Him.

16 "Therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

17 [Now he was obliged to release to them at the feast one prisoner.]

18 But they cried out all together, saying, "Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!"

19 (He was one who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection made in the city, and for murder.)

20 Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again,

21 but they kept on calling out, saying, "Crucify, crucify Him!"

22 And he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has this man done? I have found in Him no guilt demanding death; therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

23 But they were insistent, with loud voices asking that He be crucified. And their voices began to prevail.

24 And Pilate pronounced sentence that their demand be granted.

25 And he released the man they were asking for who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, but he delivered Jesus to their will.

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- So judge Pilate is now calling together everyone for the final verdict.
- Discovery is finished, depositions taken, witnesses have been called, the evidence has been examined, and the verdict is: **NOT GUILTY!**
- Jesus is not an insurrectionist, He is not a rebel, He is not trying to overthrow the Roman government.

Luke 23:4

4 Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man.

Luke 23:14

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Luke 23:22

22 And he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has this man done? I have found in Him no guilt demanding death;

15 "No, nor has Herod, for he sent Him back to us; and behold, nothing deserving death has been done by Him.

- Pilate had sent Jesus to a higher judge and the findings were the same: **NOT GUILTY!**
- How can you even talk about a death sentence when Jesus is innocent?
- Pilate has arrived at his position as governor and judge because he has a logical mind. He can do legal analysis.

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16 "Therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

- How can you punish an innocent man?
- Pilate is trying to appease the Jewish leaders and so he begins down the road of compromise.
- So the punishment doesn't look back but is to serve as preventative for the future.
- Pilate believes he has solved the problem.

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- Jewish law required a prisoner to be released once a year at the time of the Passover.
- But the Jewish leaders do not want Jesus to be released, they can't do anything with Him.
- They want Jesus crucified and they can't do that.
- So they want Barabbas, an insurrectionist and a murderer.
- They see Jesus as one who has failed to overthrow Rome.
- However now they are getting a true insurrectionist. Maybe he will lead the rebellion.

"For us who believe in Christ, it is hard to fathom how a person can know anything about Christ and yet willfully reject Him. But it shows us how strong the power of sin is in the fallen human heart!"

- Steven Cole

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- Pilate wants to get Jesus off his hands.
- He wants to keep the peace. Caesar requires it. Pax Romana – Roman peace for over 200 years.
- But the Jews are relentless. They want Jesus dead.
- Even more than that, they want Jesus tortured. They knew what it meant to be crucified.

Luke 23:13-25

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"As a choir raises their voices together to sound forth their song, this mob was singing for slaughter and bellowing for blood. The monotonous chant of this fickle, emotion-charged, screaming rabble of rebels was, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

- Rod Mattoon

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- For the third time Pilate gives the verdict: **NOT GUILTY!**
- "What don't you understand about this?"
- "I'm going to punish Him and release Him."

23 But they were insistent, with loud voices asking that He be crucified. And their voices began to prevail.

- Now the volume turns into a roar.
- "insistent"** - **επικεμαί** – pressure created by a violent storm.
"loud" – **μεγασ** – mighty, great.
"prevail" – **κατισχυω** – to overpower and remain against.

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Matt 27:15-26

- 15 Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the people any one prisoner whom they wanted.
16 At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas.
17 So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"
18 For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over.
19 While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."
20 But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death.
21 But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."
22 Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Crucify Him!"
23 And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!"
24 When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves."
25 And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!"
26 Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

24 And Pilate pronounced sentence that their demand be granted.

- Why did Pilate do that?
- **3 incidents that led to this:**
 1. When Pilate first became governor in 26 AD, he ticked off the Jews by displaying images of Caesar in Jerusalem. The Jews believed that was idolatry. They rioted against Pilate.
 2. Used money from the temple treasury to build a Roman aqueduct. Jews rioted against Pilate.
 3. Pilate put shields up in the temple in Jerusalem which had Caesar's name on them. Jews rioted against him.
- Therefore Pilate knows he could lose his job over another riot, this time caused by what to do with Jesus. Pilate's job was to keep the peace, not cause a riot.
- Pilate concluded, it is just not worth it.
- He compromised and gave the Jews what they wanted.

Deut 5:32

- 32 "So you shall observe to do just as the Lord your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right or to the left.

Matt 5:37

- 7 "But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond these is of evil.

James 4:17

- 17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Deut 21:1-8

- 1 "If a slain person is found lying in the open country in the land which the Lord your God gives you to possess, and it is not known who has struck him,
- 2 then your elders and your judges shall go out and measure the distance to the cities which are around the slain one.
- 3 "It shall be that the city which is nearest to the slain man, that is, the elders of that city, shall take a heifer of the herd, which has not been worked and which has not pulled in a yoke;
- 4 and the elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a valley with running water, which has not been plowed or sown, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley.
- 5 "Then the priests, the sons of Levi, shall come near, for the Lord your God has chosen them to serve Him and to bless in the name of the Lord; and every dispute and every assault shall be settled by them.
- 6 "All the elders of that city which is nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley;
- 7 and they shall answer and say, 'Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it.'
- 8 'Forgive Your people Israel whom You have redeemed, O Lord, and do not place the guilt of innocent blood in the midst of Your people Israel.

Mark 15:6-15

- 6 Now at the feast he used to release for them any one prisoner whom they requested.
- 7 The man named Barabbas had been imprisoned with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the insurrection.
- 8 The crowd went up and began asking him to do as he had been accustomed to do for them.
- 9 Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"
- 10 For he was aware that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.
- 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to ask him to release Barabbas for them instead.
- 12 Answering again, Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?"
- 13 They shouted back, "Crucify Him!"
- 14 But Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify Him!"
- 15 Wishing to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

- 10 So Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?"
- 11 Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

Acts 4:27-29

- 7 "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,
- 28 to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.
- 12 As a result of this Pilate made efforts to release Him, but the Jews cried out saying, "If you release this Man, you are no friend of Caesar; everyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes Caesar."
- 13 Therefore when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.
- 14 Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"
- 15 So 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."
- 16 So he then handed Him over to them to be crucified.

John 19:1-16

- 1 Pilate then took Jesus and scourged Him.
- 2 And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe on Him;
- 3 and they began to come up to Him and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to give Him slaps in the face.
- 4 Pilate came out again and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."
- 5 Jesus then came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!"
- 6 So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him."
- 7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God."
- 8 Therefore when Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid;
- 9 and he entered into the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

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- The Jews got their way.
- They got a true insurrectionist, which is what they wanted in Jesus.

Application

1. How important is “position” to you”
2. What is the “pressure of the crowd” in your life? What does it take for you to “cave” and compromise biblical principles?