

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Could Pilate have escaped the responsibility? Can we?
2. Why did Pilate seem to care at all about Jesus? Why did he give in to the crowd?
3. Why do many people think that ignoring Jesus absolves them of responsibility? Does it? (John 3:18)
4. Is the lack of courage the only reason many do not decide for Jesus?
5. What was the effect of so much publicity surrounding Jesus' sentencing and death?
6. What is our answer to the inescapable responsibility of the question: "But whom say ye that I am?" (Matthew 16:15)
How do we show what our answer is?

SUMMARY:

We must not fear people or be afraid of losing our earthly position if we want to decide for Jesus. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were not afraid to stand up for what they knew was the truth and were delivered from man and death. (Daniel 3:1-30) So we today must decide for Jesus if we want to be delivered from the condemnation into which we were born. We cannot be indifferent or ignore the issue for in so doing we decide against Jesus and for our own condemnation.

We believe we are nearing the end of this age. The world is in chaos and troubled as well as are the hearts and minds of its inhabitants. We cannot save the world, but we can decide for Jesus and believe that He came to save each of us.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #9

May 31, 2026

Second Quarter

CHRIST APPEARS BEFORE PILATE

LESSON TEXT: *John 18:28-40; 19:1-16*

LESSON SETTING: In Jerusalem, at the Hall of Judgment.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D.

- I. PILATE'S PREDICAMENT.** John 18:28-40
 - A. It Was Forced on Him (vs. 28-30)
 - B. He Tried to Escape the Predicament (vs. 31)
 - C. No Predicament Because He Pronounced Christ Innocent (vs. 38)
 - D. He Tried to Escape Again by Leaving the Choice Up to the People (vs. 39)
- II. PILATE'S PROCLAMATION.** John 19:1-5
 - A. He Scourged Him (vs. 1-3) Matthew 27:26; Mark 15:15
 - B. He Said He Finds No Fault in Jesus (vs. 4) Luke 23:14, 15
 - C. He Wanted the People to Have Pity (vs. 5) Mark 15:9
- III. PILATE'S PERPLEXITY.** John 19:6-12
 - A. Puzzled That the Chief Priests Persisted (vs. 6) Matthew 27:22
 - B. His Perplexity Increases (vs. 7-8) Matthew 27:23; Mark 15:14; Luke 23:22
 - C. Jesus' Silence (vs. 9-10) Matthew 27:14; Mark 15:5; Luke 23:9
 - D. The Fear of God (vs. 11-12)
- IV. PILATE'S PROCEDURE.** John 19:13-16
 - A. The Jews Responsible (vs. 13-14) Matthew 27:25; John 9:11b
 - B. Appeals to Their Mercy (vs. 15)
 - C. His Judgment (vs. 16) Matthew 27:26

GOLDEN TEXT: *TO THIS END WAS I BORN, AND FOR THIS CAUSE CAME I INTO THE WORLD, THAT I SHOULD BEAR WITNESS UNTO THE TRUTH.*
John 18:37

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 19:17-42

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Exodus 12:43-46; Hebrews 10:1-14

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of God

TOPIC: CHRIST BECOMES OUR SAVIOR

INTRODUCTION:

“If I am sincere and live the best I can, isn’t that all that is necessary to be saved?” This is a commonly asked question. The answer is sometimes difficult for one without a Bible background to comprehend. The Bible teaches plainly that our salvation rests not on our efforts, or even our sincerity, but rather upon the atoning work of Christ on the cross, and our faith in that atoning work for us.

To recognize their need of salvation in this manner, the world’s inhabitants must recognize that because they have sinned—whether more or less—they are classified as sinners, and therefore worthy of condemnation. No amount of good works will ever erase that fact. According to God, the shed blood of Jesus is accepted as the price paid for all sin. Thus the sinner, recognizing himself or herself as such, in repentance, having a deep remorse for his or her sins, must look to the cross in faith, claiming the blood of Christ as the atonement for his or her sins. By this glorious provision of God, anyone who desires may be saved.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Christ was the perfect sacrifice, and we are justified by faith in His atonement.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BUT GOD COMMENDETH HIS LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT, WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.*
Romans 5:8

Sinners, in their unreconciled state, are at enmity with God. Yet the Heavenly Father gave His very best—His only begotten Son—to be sacrificed as a ransom price for sinners. To lay down His life for a friend’s sake is the utmost manifestation of man’s love. (John 15:13) Jesus made the supreme sacrifice by laying down His life for His enemies. (John 10:15, 18)

Learn thou from this cross most truly
That thy Saviour loved thee dear;
See His suffering and His sorrow
As His soul was filled with fear
Curse lay on Him, Pain upon Him
Dire need He suffered there.

Z.H. 226:2

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF June 1 – 7

Mon. The Savior Needed. Genesis 3:15-21
Tue. The Savior Promised. 2 Samuel 7:10-16
Wed. The Savior Comes. Luke 2:1-11
Thu. *The Savior Suffers. John 19:17-27
Fri. *The Savior Dies. John 19:28-42
Sat. The Savior Lives. John 20:1-17
Sun. The Savior Reigns. Revelation 19:11-16

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