

Easter Part 2- Jesus is Arrested and Condemned to Death | 4/14/19

- The arrest of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane
 - Jesus prays | Matthew 26:36-44
 - **Read Matthew 26:36-44**
 - Jesus knew His hour had come and He would soon be arrested and led to die on the cross the following day.
 - **Jesus spent these final hours of physical freedom in prayer.**
 - Even though Jesus knew that these events had to take place, He still felt sorrowful.
 - We might think that perhaps His humanity was fearful of what was going to happen.
 - **However, the real reason is likely is not the pain and suffering to His human body, but that He was getting ready to take the sins of the world upon Himself which is far greater than any physical pain.**
 - Jesus's humanity was entirely submissive.
 - As Jesus prayed to ask if this cup could pass, His humanity showed that He was entirely submissive to God. He was fully obedient to the will of the Father.
 - Jesus would see this through to the end and bear our sin upon Himself.
 - Isaiah 53:11
 - “Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.”
 - **Mark 14:36**
 - **“And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.**
 - Jesus gives Christians an example of what it means to be submissive to God.
 - We will all experience trials and difficult times in life.
 - Sometimes these are of no fault of our own, other times they are self-inflicted.
 - Regardless of the "why," there are many times where God allows us to go through it, how we handle those situations it what is most important.
 - **Jesus showed us that while He was not looking forward to His "trial," He taught us that if it is God's will, then we must be submissive.**
 - **When we have our “garden of Gethsemane” moment in life, we must be submissive to the will of God.**
 - **How can we as Christians relate and learn from Jesus’s example of being submissive to the Father?**
 - The hour is at hand, Jesus is arrested | Matthew 26:45-50
 - **Read Matthew 26:45-56**
 - Judas followed through with his betrayal, and he led the chief priests to Jesus so that He could be arrested.
 - Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss, one that would typically be a sign of affection and greeting was instead used to lead Jesus to death.
 - **These events took place to fulfill the Scriptures, to satisfy the will of God.**
 - Matthew 26:56
 - “But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples left him and fled

- **While these events are terrible, in that the only one who was perfect and without sin was being arrested and punished for doing no wrong, yet these events happened according to the will of God.**
 - Jesus further highlighted this when He said that they could have seized Him at the temple at any time, but today is when they chose to do so.
 - **This wasn't "their" time, but it was God's.**
 - Peter tried to intervene, but Jesus made it clear that these must take place to fulfill the Scriptures.
 - Matthew does not identify who drew the sword, but John identifies him as Peter.
 - John 18:10
 - "Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)"
 - Luke tells us that Jesus also healed the man's ear.
 - Luke 22:51
 - "But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him."
 - Peter wanting to defend Jesus drew his sword, which we might think to be a heroic act.
 - **However, Jesus did not need to be defended.** He told Peter to put away the sword and said to him that these events must take place to fulfill Scripture.
 - And to reaffirm that Jesus did not need His physical protection, He told Him that the Father would send twelve legions (72,000) of angels if He requested them.
 - **But Jesus did not do this because He knew that the only way to save us, was to sacrifice Himself.**
 - **None of the disciples stayed with Jesus; they all fled.**
 - We might think that surely one of Jesus's disciples would have stayed, but we see that they all fled.
 - Even Peter who had drawn his sword left Him.
 - Before this event, Peter and the disciples said they would never leave Him, but Jesus already knew what was going to happen and said that they in fact would.
 - Matthew 26:33
 - "Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."
 - Matthew 26:35
 - "Peter said to him, even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same."
 - Matthew 26:31
 - "Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered."
 - **Is it possible for Christians to also behave similarly to these disciples?**
- The Trials
 - **Jesus was subjected to two different trials. One was Jewish, and the other was Roman.**
 - The Jewish trials began informally with Annas and then concluded with the high priest Caiaphas along with the council.
 - First Jesus was brought to Annas, who had previously been the high priest. | John 18:12-14, 19-24

- **Read John 18:12-13**
 - “So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who as high priest that year.”
- **Read John 18:19-24**
- Annas (apparently) still had power even though he wasn't technically the high priest and they wanted to hear what he would have to say about Jesus.
- Annas quickly sent him on to Caiaphas, the high priest.
- Next, Jesus was taken to Caiaphas and the council | Matthew 26:57-68
 - **Read Matthew 26:57-68**
 - Peter follows
 - Matthew points out that Peter was still following along to see what would happen to Jesus.
 - **Again, they tried to find false witnesses to bring against Jesus so that they could “legally” put Jesus to death.**
 - Their hatred for Him was so significant that they would break their own laws to do so.
 - Finally, a distortion of what Jesus had previously stated about the temple was given, and Caiaphas tried to get Jesus to answer Him.
 - **Caiaphas then put Jesus under oath and asked pointedly if He indeed was the Christ, the Son of God.**
 - For Caiaphas to say “I adjure you by the living God” was to put Jesus under oath.
 - To this question, Jesus answered that He was and identified Himself as the Son of Man.
 - Matthew 26:63-64
 - “But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus said to him, you have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”
 - **This was enough evidence as Caiaphas saw this as blasphemy and no longer was any other evidence needed.**
 - Jesus identified Himself as the Christ, the Messiah which to them, of course, was blasphemy.
 - Then He also added that He would be seated at the right hand of God. This of course further infuriated them. They certainly did not believe that Jesus was who He said He was.
 - To this, they deemed that Jesus needed to die and no one stuck up for Him.
 - Scripture does not tell us that anyone disagreed with the high priest; they all wanted Christ to die.
 - Jesus took their abuse, knowing that He was in the will of the Father.
 - 1 Peter 2:23
 - “When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.”
- Jesus before Pilate begins the Roman trials | John 18:28-38

- **Read John 18:28-32**
- While the Jews condemned Jesus to death, they still needed the assistance of the Romans.
 - **The Jews had lost their right to capital punishment in A.D. 6 and therefore needed the assistance of Pontius Pilate to have Him put to death.**
 - It was God's will for Jesus to be crucified on a cross. If the Jews had killed Him, they would have done it by stoning.
 - Jesus said on several occasions that he would die by being lifted up.
 - John 12:32-33
 - "As for Me, if I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all people to Myself." He said this to signify what kind of death He was about to die."
- **Read John 18:33-38a**
- Jesus affirms to Pilate that He is a king, but not one of earthly origin but heavenly.
 - Pilate wanted to know if Jesus was the king of the Jews and Jesus verified this.
 - Mark 15:2
 - "So Pilate asked Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You have said it."
 - **But Jesus also answered this in a way that Pilate was not expecting, because Jesus told him that His kingdom was not of this world.**
 - John 18:36a
 - "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world..."
 - Because Jesus's kingdom is in heaven and not an earthly kingdom.
- **Jesus came into the world to testify to the truth**
 - Then Jesus tells Pilate exactly why He was born, and what purpose He is here.
 - Jesus said that He came to testify to the truth.
 - To tell the world of their sin and the punishment that is justly deserved.
 - That by His sacrifice on the cross there would be forgiveness for sins.
 - Those that listen to Jesus will understand and know the truth and therefore will be saved.
 - This is the truth of why Christ came.
 - Pilate then asks a very profound question "what is truth?" yet he turned away without hearing the answer from the one who could answer it.
- **The Gospel of Luke tells us that at this time Jesus was taken briefly before Herod before then returning to Pilate again. | Luke 23:6-12**
 - Since Jesus was a Galilean, he thought perhaps he could send this "problem" over to his rival Herod who was in town for the feasts.
 - Herod found no fault only had hoped that Jesus would perform a "sign" before him.
- Pilate found no fault yet turned Jesus over to be crucified anyway. | John 18:38b-19:16
 - **Read John 18:38b-19:16**
 - Pilate stated that he could find no fault with Jesus, certainly nothing that would warrant His death.
 - John 18:38b
 - "...I find no guilt in him."
 - John 19:4
 - "Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him."

- John 19:6b
 - "...Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him."
- **Pilate even tried to use one of their customs of releasing a prisoner at Passover, so he offered up a truly evil man and Jesus, yet they took Barabbas.**
- **The crown of thorns and the purple robe.**
 - Jesus was then given a crown of thorns and a purple robe. This was intended to inflict pain, mock and to belittle Jesus.
 - Pilate did this as well to show just how insignificant "this man" was hoping that they would agree and choose to allow Jesus to be released.
 - Pilate did not see a reason that Jesus should be crucified.
- The Jews didn't believe that Jesus was who He said He was and had an extreme amount of hatred towards Him. They wanted Him crucified.
 - John 19:6a
 - "When the chief priests and officers saw him, they cried out, Crucify him, crucify him!..."
 - John 19:7
 - "The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to the law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God."
 - Matthew 27:22
 - "Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!"
- **Pilate upon hearing that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God was troubled.**
 - John 19:8
 - "When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid."
 - This is likely because Romans were very superstitious, and he likely saw Jesus (not as messianic) but as a potentially divine man.
 - He was concerned not only about His innocence, but that there may be more to him.
 - **And to add to this Pilates wife had a dream about Jesus and told him to have nothing to do with him.**
 - Matthew 27:19
 - "Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream."
- **Pilate questioned Jesus and was getting no response until he spoke of authority, and then Jesus told him that Pilates authority was given to him.**
 - John 19:11
 - "Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you hast the greater sin."
 - **This statement of Jesus seemed to have hit Pilate hard, likely fueling his previous concerns to who Jesus is.**
- Pilate tried to free Jesus, but his efforts were fruitless, and he eventually gave in.
 - When the crowds said that if he released Jesus that he was not Caesar's friend this was likely the final push he needed. Pilate would indeed have feared for his own well-being if this was told to Caesar.

- Pilate then washed his hands of Jesus and ordered Him to be crucified.
 - Matthew 27:24
 - “So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, I am innocent of this man’s blood, see to it yourselves.
- Jesus was then delivered to be crucified.
 - John 19:16
 - “So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.”