

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 23:1-25

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“WHAT TO DO WITH GOD”

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN, SAVIOR OF ALL MANKIND*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Jesus' Deity, Injustice, Righteousness, Government

Luke 23:1-25

Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Jesus to **Pilate**. :2 And they began to accuse Him, saying, **“We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.”** :3 Then **Pilate** asked Him, saying, **“Are You the King of the Jews?”** He answered him and said, **“It is as you say.”** :4 So **Pilate** said to the chief priests and the crowd, **“I find no fault in this Man.”** :5 But they were the more fierce, saying, **“He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place.”** :6 When **Pilate** heard of Galilee, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. :7 And as soon as he knew that He belonged to **Herod's** jurisdiction, he sent Him to **Herod**, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. :8 Now when **Herod** saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Him, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. :9 Then he questioned Him with many words, but He answered him nothing. :10 And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him. :11 Then **Herod**, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent Him back to **Pilate**... :12 That very day **Pilate** and **Herod** became friends with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other :13 Then **Pilate**, when he had called together **the chief priests**, the **rulers**, and the **people**, :14 he said to them, **“You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him; :15 no, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him; and indeed nothing deserving of death has been done by Him. :16 I will therefore chastise Him and release Him”** :17 *(for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).* :18 And **they all** cried out at once, saying,

“Away with this Man, and release to us Barabbas” - - :19 who had been thrown into prison for a certain rebellion made in the city, and for murder. **:20 Pilate**, therefore, wishing to release Jesus, again called out to them. **:21** But they shouted, saying, **“Crucify Him, crucify Him!”** **:22** Then he said to them **the third time, “Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him. I will therefore chastise Him and let Him go.”** **:23** But they were **insistent, demanding** with loud voices that He be crucified. And the voices of these **men** and of the **chief priests** prevailed. **:24** So **Pilate** gave sentence that it should be as they requested. **:25** And he released to them the one they requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

Jesus’ First Trial was Appropriately, Before Israel’s Sanhedrin.

This was a Religious Trial. Now Jesus’ Case moves to a Different Jurisdiction,
Now – To the Courtrooms of both Herod and Pontius Pilate

courtrooms of the consciences,

WHAT TO DO WITH GOD

1.) The danger of trying to pass Jesus off v.1-7

1a.) As someone common v.1-3

Then the whole multitude of them arose and led Jesus to **Pilate**. **:2** And they began to accuse Him, saying, **“We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a King.”** **:3** Then **Pilate** asked Him, saying, **“Are You the King of the Jews?”** He answered him and said, **“It is as you say.”**

**Pontius Pilate, coming from the Imperial Roman Mindset,
Had no public problem with Jesus proclaiming His kingship.
To Pilate – it was a total joke!!!**

**Pilate Could Care Less About a Jewish King –
Rome Ruled the World.**

John 18:33-36

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" :34 Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" :35 Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" :36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

The Danger of Seeing Jesus As Someone Common -

**Why are people not open
or not willing to consider Jesus Christ, biblically?
*Because of Religious or Emotional Pollutants and or Biases***

THE DANGER OF TRYING TO PASS JESUS OFF

1b.) As someone guilty of controversy v.4-5

:4 So **Pilate** said to the chief priests and the crowd, "**I find no fault in this Man.**" :5
But they were the more fierce, saying, "**He stirs up (excites)
the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place.**

"We're Not Going to Talk About Jesus Christ Here."

What was the **evidence**, not the **gossip**, what was the **truth**?

**"He stirs up (excites) the people,
teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place.**

All True and Correct – but they didn't like that

**Jesus is only controversial
among those who are jealous of Him**

Verse 4-5

But they were the **more fierce**,

THE DANGER OF TRYING TO PASS JESUS OFF

1c.) As someone that others decide upon v.6-7

:6 When **Pilate** heard of Galilee, he asked if the Man were a Galilean. :7 And as soon as he knew that He belonged to **Herod's** jurisdiction, he sent Him to **Herod**, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

From Those Who "Pass Jesus Off"

"I really don't need Jesus Christ but let me ask you a question,
*what about the man in the jungles of South America
who's never heard about Jesus?*

Romans 1:20-22

For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, :21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. :22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

He's For Others to Decide Upon

WHAT TO DO WITH GOD

2.) The danger of making light of Jesus v.8-12

2a.) Why doesn't He do something for me? v.8-9

:8 Now when **Herod** saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad; for he had desired for a long time to see Jesus, because he had heard many things about Him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. :9 Then he questioned Him with many words, but Jesus answered him nothing.

The Herod family was a mess and this Herod,
Herod Antipas was the son of the famed "Herod the Great" - Herod Antipas
Comes from a long line of **Narcissistic Sociopathic Megalomaniacs**

**for Herod it was “Circus, Circus”
“Jesus is fun and He’s fun to poke fun at”
but Jesus answered him nothing**

Jesus had interacted with **Judas** / with **Pilate** / with the **Sanhedrin** but He has not one word for Herod - this is telling.

That the Lord would have **nothing to say to you!**

The God of the Bible and The Ministry of Jesus Christ

Will never be understood by those who are only **curious** about Him.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who **diligently seek** Him.

diligently seek ejkzhte÷w ekzeteo, ek-zay-teh´-o;
search out, investigate, crave for, demand to see

Jeremiah 29:12-14

Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. **:13** And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart. **:14** I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity;

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. **:2** But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear you.

Kent Hughes Writes;

The danger of becoming a “Herod hearted person” is all too great and is more common than not. A man or a woman who is surrounded by relievoes things but whose conscience is never softened and brought closer to Christ, becomes cool, systematic and indifferent to those things that should have rather tenderized their heart. Once this kind of heart, at home with religious activities but having abandoned God - - there is nothing left but the coming of eternal silence.”

THE DANGER OF MAKING LIGHT OF HIM

2b.) Why doesn't He do something about them? V.10-11

:10 And the chief **priests** and **scribes** stood and **vehemently accused** Him. :11 Then **Herod**, with his men of war, treated Him with **contempt** and **mocked** Him, **arrayed** Him in a gorgeous (*purple*) robe, and sent Him back to **Pilate**. :12 That very day **Pilate** and **Herod** became friends with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other.

Herod is trying to “force a reaction” from Jesus.

“If he wasn't going to get an answer from Him, maybe the priests and scribes could create one?”

“Why Doesn't Jesus Christ Do Something About That?”

WHAT TO DO WITH GOD

3.) The danger of rationalizing about Jesus v.13-17

To **Rationalize** is to **reduce**, to **diminish**, or to **generalize**.

He's good, I'm good, you're good, we're all good

Jesus Christ is like all the other greats in history

3a.) Jesus Christ has no faults v.14

Pilate said to them, “You have brought this Man to me, as one who misleads the people. And indeed, having examined Him in your presence, I have found no fault in this Man...”

I have found no fault in this Man

That sounds good on the surface - - but it's an impossibility **unless!!!!**

I have found no fault in this Man

Because He is perfect, and He is who He says He is!!!!

John 3:19-21

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. :20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, **lest his deeds should be exposed.**
:21 But he who does the truth comes to the light,

THE DANGER OF RATIONALIZING ABOUT HIM

3b.) Jesus Christ has committed no crimes v.15

...nothing deserving of death has been done by Him

Daniel 9:26b

“...The Messiah shall be **cut off**, but not for Himself;

karath, kaw-rath´ - to pass between the flesh.
to be offered up, to die, to pass between an offering.

Killed for Being Guilty of..... being the
Messiah

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

3c.) Jesus Christ has allowed no room for compromise v.16-17

:16 I will therefore chastise Him and release Him”

:17 *(for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).*

WHAT TO DO WITH GOD, WITH JESUS CHRIST

WHAT TO DO WITH GOD

4.) The danger of bargaining with Jesus v.18-25

THE DANGER OF BARGAINING AGAINST HIM

4a.) There is no other

v.18

And **they all** cried out at once, saying,
“**Away with this Man, and release to us Barabbas**”

“we want to make a deal regarding Jesus Christ.”
This is how it's going to be!

No Other Person *in all of History can compare to Him...*

THE DANGER OF BARGAINING AGAINST HIM

4b.) There is no other way out

v.20-22

:20 Pilate, therefore, **wishing to release** Jesus, again called out to them. - - **:22** Then he said to them **the third time**, “**Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him. I will therefore chastise Him and let Him go.**”

If you're counting,
this is the third announcement of Jesus' innocence.
“**Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him**”

Matthew 27:17-19

Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” **:18** For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. **:19** While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.”

4c.) There is no other answer

v.23-25

:23 But they were **insistent, demanding** with **loud voices** that He be crucified. And **the voices** of these men and of the chief priests **prevailed**. **:24** So **Pilate** gave sentence that it should be **as they requested**. **:25** And he released to them the one they requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; **but he delivered Jesus to their will.**

Pilate didn't want to put Jesus to death nor injure Him.
(but those emotions didn't excuse Pilate from his responsibilities)
He tried 4 times to avoid dealing with Jesus Christ.

(1) he told the Jews to **settle** it among themselves.
(2) he tried to **refer** the case to Herod. (3) he tried to **convince** the Jews to take Jesus as a prisoner. (4) he tried to **compromise** and have Jesus beaten and released.

This is The Terrible Power of Peer Pressure.

Verse 23b-25

...so the voices of these men and of the chief priests **prevailed**. :24 So **Pilate** gave sentence that it should be **as they requested**. :25 And he released to them the one they **requested**, (Barabas) who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison; **xbut he delivered Jesus to their will.**

Pilate is Torn Within His Own Conscience...

Peer Pressure

John 19:12

From then on Pilate sought to release Jesus, but the Jews cried out, saying, **"If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."**

Pilate does this to maintain his power & position.

"If I have to throw Jesus Christ under the bus so I can maintain my image, my own power & position – so be it"

John 18:37b-38

"...Every one that is of the truth hears My voice. :38 Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out..."

This Danger of Being Afraid of Human Opinion - Peer Pressure.

Matthew 27:24

When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather *that* a tumult was rising, he took water and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying,
“I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it.”

Pontius Pilate

“an anchor-less, rudder-less, opportunist.
perfectly pliable to the trends and tides of the masses.

what happens when we attempt to bargain with God?
We begin to twist and argue truth right out of the room.

As far as I can recall, Pontius Pilate

Is the only man in history that publicly announced Jesus’ innocence
but rejected Him just the same.

But that leads me to ask you this question,
Do you have a high opinion of Jesus Christ, but you have yet to do
anything with Him?

John 8:32

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

————— *End of Study* —————