

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 18:24-40

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“THE WAY OF THE CROSS” – PART 3

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

TOPICAL SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

The Cross, Arrest, Betrayal

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 18:24-40

We Have an Amazing Message
in the Bible, in the Gospel & Revelation of Jesus Christ

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

----- HUMANITY ON TRIAL -----

1.) *Opens our eyes to our own weakness*

vv. 24-27

a.) *Spiritual blindness*

v.24

Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Caiaphas had Another Job That Week

That He Was to be Doing. It was by his authority that a sacrificial lamb be selected and then offered to God on behalf of the people...

Just North from this Location

Thousands of sheep were completing their inspection by priestly ministers just prior to being killed...

Leviticus 14:24-25

"And the priest shall take the lamb of the trespass. 25 "Then he shall kill the lamb as a sin offering..."

Many of us Here at Calvary Chapel have been To Caiaphas' House and Courtyard

You Can Stand on the Ground, in the very Hole Where Jesus Stood -

This is Real Friends

Spiritual blindness

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 -

to those who are perishing,

whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Must Reading / Must Reading / Must Reading / Must Reading

Mark 14:53-66

And they led Jesus away to the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. 54 But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire. 55 Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. 56 For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. 57 Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, 58 "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" 59 But not even then did their testimony agree. 60 And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" 61 But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" 62 And Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." 63 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? 64 "You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?" And they all condemned Him to be worthy of death. 65 Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold

Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, "Prophesy!" And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands. 66 Now as Peter was below in the courtyard,

Opens our eyes to our own weakness

b.) Emotional Compromise

v.25

Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" **He denied it and said, "I am not!"**

The Testing of Peter

Now Simon Peter stood and **warmed himself**

Stay Away From The Enemies Fire

"warmed himself"

sought comfort

Earlier That Night Jesus Had Told Peter

John 13:38

...Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.

Denial #1

Denial #2

Verse 17

Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?" He said, **"I am not."**

Opens our eyes to our own weakness

c.) Complete Personal Failure

v.26-27

One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" 27 Peter **then denied again**; and immediately a rooster crowed.

Here is Denial #3

Must Reading / Must Reading / Must Reading / Must Reading

Luke 22:54-64

Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed at a distance 55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them 56 And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him. 57 But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him. 58 And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not! 59 Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean. 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times. 62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly. 63 Now the men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him 64 And having blindfolded Him, they struck Him on the face and asked Him, saying, "Prophecy! Who is the one who struck You?"

God Knows Our Weakness

(doesn't excuse it - but knows it)

Luke 18:13

"And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'

Luke 22:31-34

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. 32 "But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." 33 But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death." 34 Then He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me."

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

----- HUMANITY ON TRIAL -----

2.) *Uncovers human Hypocrisy*

vv. 28-32

a.) *Hypocrisy – Having a Critical Heart*

v.28

Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, **and it was early in the morning.** (3-6) But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover.

the Praetorium

was in the fortress of Antonia built by Herod the Great for his good friend Mark Antony

WE'VE SEEN THE PAVEMENT IN THE PRAETORIUM

((The Kings Game in the Stones))

But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium,
lest they should be defiled,

Pure Hypocrisy in Its Most Deadly Form – *critical heart*

Uncovers human Hypocrisy

b.) *Hypocrisy – Living Out a Lie*

v.29-30

Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" 30 They answered and said to him,
"If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you."

Verse 30

"If He were not **an evildoer, (wicked since birth)**
we would not have delivered Him up to you."

What's Your Case Against This Man

THESE RELIGIOUS MEN WERE DANGEROUS

Psalm 2:2-3,12

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us... 12 Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

A Life That is Nothing More Than a Lie
There is no truth to it

I have seen this lived out in "professing" believers lives for awhile,
But in time, the way of the world comes out...

The Pressure of Life Uncovered their Reality

Uncovers human Hypocrisy

c.) Hypocrisy – To Pretend to Care About What is Right v.31-32

31 Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," 32 that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die.

That was not exactly the truth

The Jews could, did, and would stone people at that time for Religious Reasons

The Gospel Account

...and they picked up stones to throw at him

But The Old Testament Said
That Jesus Must be Crucified, Not Stoned

Caiaphas Wanted Jesus Crucified

Because crucifixion sent a more condemning message

Deuteronomy 21:22-23

"If a man has committed a sin deserving of death, and he is put to death, and you (taw-law') hang him on a tree, 23 "his body shall not remain overnight on the tree, but you shall surely bury him that day, so that you do not defile the land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance; for he who is (taw-law') (nailed) hanged is cursed of God.

* hang Heb 8518 talah (taw-law');
to suspend, to gibbet or to nail up

Galatians 3:13

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

John 3:14-16

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

----- HUMANITY ON TRIAL -----

3.) *Reveals What We Really Believe*

vv. 33-37

a.) What are Your Convictions – are they really yours? v.33-35

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 about Me?**" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?"

Jesus is Challenging Pilate to Think

"Are you speaking for yourself about this...?"

Matthew 27:18-19

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."

Pilate –
What's Your "Conviction" About Me?

"For crying out loud Jesus,
Give him the four spiritual laws, have him bow his head and pray
and then baptize him..."

Pilate – What do You Think?

Easy Jesus

this guy could be a pretty big convert in the church if you can just get him to
come forward

NO WAY

Jesus doesn't want Recreational Believers,

- Fair Weather Followers
- Sunshine Disciples
- Christianettes

Luke 9:23

"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

These Muslim Terrorists in New York and Through the United States,

- Were They Recreational Believers?
- Were They Fair Weather Followers?
- Were They Sunshine Disciples?
- Were They Muslimettes?

How Committed Were They to Allah?

The Bible and the God of the Bible,
Condemns Their Doctrine & Their Actions
Yet they were willing to give their lives *for a lie*

WHAT ARE YOUR CONVICTIONS

Is there anything in your life that is worthy of your life - the answer is no

Without Jesus Christ - There is Nothing!!!

Reveals What We Really Believe

b.) What is Your Understanding – can you be sure? v.36

Jesus answered, "**My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would be fight, (terrorist) - so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.**"

My kingdom is not of this world...

- It is not from here

this was terrifying to
Pilate-

I AM a Spiritual King Over a Spiritual Kingdom

Caesar, Pilate, Rome, The Empire
Had no claim to spiritual kingdoms, only the material
kingdoms

**Because in the Roman Mind Spiritual Reality was the Greater,
It Transcended All Other Realms and Kingdoms & Powers**

According to Roman Historians

Jesus was Innocent – and that’s exactly how He’s recorded in roman history, world history. - innocent

Verse 35

Jesus - What have you done?

I Will Tell You What I Have Done

“I Have Come From Heaven to Earth”

I Have Announced The Existence and Entrance
into the Kingdom of God to Mankind...

What is Your Understanding – can you be sure?

What is Your Understanding – are you sure?

Look to the Hindu World And ask Yourself this question
– what have the hindu gods done for the hindu?

Look to the Buddhist World And ask Yourself this question
– what has Buddha done for the Buddhist?

Look to the Muslim World And ask Yourself this question
– what has Islam done for the Muslim?

**In love, equality, protection, human value, logic, reason, forgiveness
...salvation**

How Does The Hindu, Buddhist, & Muslim Enter Heaven and Eternal Life?

Each of their Answers are Completely Different than the Other.
Who's Right?

What is Your Understanding – can you be sure?

c.) What is Your Response – can you hear His voice? v.37

Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "**You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.**"

1 Timothy 6:12-13

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

----- HUMANITY ON TRIAL -----

4.) Exposes Our Foundations vv. 38-40

a.) Pilate was looking to "fill in" the cracks in his life v.38a

Pilate said to Him, "**What is truth?**" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews

Worldly Thinking

“It’s a Constantly Changing World Out There. Things are not what they appear to be,

P o n t i u s P i l a t e

Seems to be of the mindset that there are no real absolutes in life

“Absolutes Plague This World”

Pontius Pilate

He’s Walking a Tight Rope Act Over the Pit of Indecision
The Rope is Real, the Pit is Real, The Outcome is Real
But he toys with the question & decision

Pilate was a Man

Who was Tired of hearing about religion
- he was over Jerusalem!

Who was Tired of the Bureaucracy of a Massive Roman Empire
- he was a little fish in a big sea!

Pilate was a Man

Who couldn’t see the line drawn in the sand
- that Line stood right in front of him

Exposes Our Foundation

b.) He lacked “Will” – what about your “Will” - Intention? v.38b-39

To the Jews he says to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. 39 "But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

i find no fault in him at all!

Another Gospel States

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."

I wouldn't want to be Pontius Pilate right now in hell

HE SAW JESUS FACE TO FACE
HE TALKED TO JESUS FACE TO FACE

I'm wondering if Adolph Hitler
isn't asking Pilate right Now;
Why didn't you Listen to Him Then?
Why didn't you take a stand for what you believed Then?

i found no fault in
him at all!

i found no fault in him
at all!

i found no fault in him
at all!

i found no fault in him at all!

i found no fault in him at all!

i found no fault in him at all!

i found no fault in him at all!

**Is He Mumbling This to Himself
in Hell Today?**

What About

your convictions – are they really yours? and why?

Do You Find Fault With Jesus?

Verse 38b-39

...you have a custom, do whatever you want!
"- the words of a condemned man"

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

----- HUMANITY ON TRIAL -----

Exposes Our Foundation

c.) He was, the world is - intolerant of Jesus

v.40

Then **they all cried** again, saying, "**Not this Man,**
but Barabbas!" - - Now Barabbas was a robber.

* Cried grk 2905 kraugazo (krow-gad'-zo);
To clamor and wail. To make a great noise, a tumult, a protest,
firm action against someone...

"Not this Man"

Why Would the Holy Spirit,
Author of the Bible,

Point out to us that Barabbas was the one that they selected?

Why Barabbas? –

Why a Thief, Insurrectionist, Murderer?

The Ancient Historian Origen

Said that **Barabbas** was his Surname, and **Jesus** was his first name

Bar-abbas

Means "*son of a father*"

Implying not a specific father - an illegitimate child

Jesus Bar-abbas

Was being held in the basement of the Antonia Fortress, very near
Pilate's Judgment Seat.

Bar-abbas

Would have easily heard the crowd,
But not so easily Pilate...

Bar-Abbas is In Jail

His Life has been one pathetic Wreck after another,
He's awaiting the Judgment for his Crimes

COMMITTED AGAINST

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

THE EMPIRE PRIDED ITSELF ON EXECUTING JUSTICE

Matthew 27:21-26

Pilate answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They cried, "**Barabbas!**" 22 Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "**Let Him be crucified!**" 23 Then Pilate said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "**Let Him be crucified!**" ...25 And all the people answered and said, "**His blood be on us and on our children.**" 26 Then he released Barabbas to them...

Donald Gray Barnhouse Says
“Barabbas is the only man on earth who could have said;
Jesus died for me both, in my place physically and spiritually”

1 Peter 2:24

who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins,
might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Have you been healed of your sins dear friend ?

THE WAY OF THE CROSS **----- ON TRIAL -----**

The Religious Leaders, Annas & Caiaphas - On Trial Before Jesus!

The People of Israel - On Trial Before Jesus!

The Might of the Roman Empire - On Trial Before Jesus!

Peter - On Trial Before Jesus!

Pilate - On Trial Before Jesus!

You - On Trial Before Jesus!

AMERICA NEEDS JESUS

The end