

# *PASSION ROAD*

John's Map to Christ's Glory

## **Part 3 - Politics, Public Opinion, and Personal Decisions**





***Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”...***

***Matthew 16:13,15-16 ESV***

***...He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”***

***Matthew 16:13,15-16 ESV***

# **Jesus and Political Power**



# 1. Jesus is the Yes and No King





***So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?”...***

***John 18:33-37a ESV***

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

***John 18:33-37a ESV***



***....Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”...***

***John 18:33-37a ESV***



***...Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose, I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth.”***

***John 18:33-37a ESV***



# 2. Power Void of Truth is Destructive





***“Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him,  
“What is truth?”***

***John 18:37b-38a ESV***



# 3. Power Confronted by the Cross is Transformational!





***So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?”...***

***John 19:10-11 ESV***



***...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 has the greater sin.”***

***John 19:10-11 ESV***



***So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended, and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense...***

***1 Corinthians 1:23-25 NLT***



***...But to those called by God to  
salvation, both Jews and Gentiles,  
Christ is the power of God and the  
wisdom of God...***

***1 Corinthians 1:23-25 NLT***



***...This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.***

***1 Corinthians 1:23-25 NLT***



**Pilate's Politically  
Motivated Pass-the-Buck  
Strategy**



***Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?”  
They all said, “Let him be crucified!”***

***Matthew 27:22 ESV***



***And Pilate again said to them,  
“Then what shall I do with the man  
you call the King of the Jews?”  
And they cried out again,  
“Crucify him.”***

***Mark 15:12-13 ESV***



**“I’ll Let the Politicians Decide.”**





***But they were urgent, saying,  
“He stirs up the people, teaching  
throughout all Judea, from Galilee  
even to this place.” When Pilate heard  
this, he asked whether the man was  
a Galilean...***

***Luke 23:5-12 ESV***



***...And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time...***

***Luke 23:5-12 ESV***



***...When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer...***

***Luke 23:5-12 ESV***



***...The chief priests and the scribes  
stood by, vehemently accusing him.  
And Herod with his soldiers treated  
him with contempt and mocked him...***

***Luke 23:5-12 ESV***



***...Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.***

***Luke 23:5-12 ESV***



“I’ll Let the People Decide.”





***After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover...***

***John 18:38b-40 ESV***



***...So, do you want me to release to  
you the King of the Jews?”  
They cried out again, “Not this man,  
but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was  
a robber.***

***John 18:38b-40 ESV***



“I’ll Let Pity Decide.”





***Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe...***

***John 19:1-5 ESV***



***...They came up to him, saying,  
“Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck  
him with their hands...***

***John 19:1-5 ESV***



***...They came up to him, saying,  
“Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck  
him with their hands. 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 19:1-5 ESV***



***...So Jesus came out,  
wearing the crown of thorns and the  
purple robe. Pilate said to them,  
“Behold the man!”***

***John 19:1-5 ESV***



“I’ll Let Paranoia Decide.”





***When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.”...***

***John 19:6-9 ESV***



***...The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.”...***

***John 19:6-9 ESV***



***...When Pilate heard this statement,  
he was even more afraid. He entered  
his headquarters again and said to  
Jesus, "Where are you from?"  
But Jesus gave him no answer.***

***John 19:6-9 ESV***



**“I’ll Let Personal Survival Decide.”**





***From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”...***

***John 19:12-16 ESV***



***...So when Pilate heard these words,  
he brought Jesus out and sat down on  
the judgment seat at a place called  
The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic  
Gabbatha...***

***John 19:12-16 ESV***



***...Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!"...***

***John 19:12-16 ESV***



***...Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.***

***John 19:12-16 ESV***