

DISCIPLE'S QUEST

*If you continue in My word, then you are
truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31



March 26, 2023

Matthew 27:1-31

What Shall I Do With Jesus Who Is Called Christ?

Main Idea:

Having already been convicted of the nonsensical charge of blasphemy by the Sanhedrin in Caiaphas's kangaroo court, Jesus now stands trial before Pontus Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea. To placate the chief priests and elders as well as the agitated Jerusalem mob, Pilate will send Jesus to the cross in spite of his own conviction of Christ's innocence.

(No Outline today)

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 Who was Matthew?

Can you identify anything in his background that may have specially prepared him to write this story of Jesus' rejection?

#2 Why was the conviction of Jesus of blasphemy by the Sanhedrin especially ironic?

#3 Who was Pilate and what was his primary responsibility?

What leverage did the chief priests and elders have over Pilate in their quest to see him sentence Jesus to death?

#4 What is the difference between simple regret and true repentance?

#5 Should Pilate be viewed sympathetically in any sense?

#6 In v.v. 22 and 23, the crowds, worked into a frenzy by the chief priests and elders, shouted to Pilate to “crucify Jesus.” Then, in v. 25, sickeningly, they asked that the blame be placed on them. “His blood be on us and our children,” they screamed. As shocking as those words are, believers today are not to hold this outburst of the riled-up mob against the Jewish people. Those who shouted for the Lord’s murder that day had no more ability to bind God to punish subsequent generations of Jews than our own unbelieving ancestors would have had to require our punishment for their sins. Scripture does not condone racial prejudice of any kind. To the contrary, 1 Timothy 2:1 requires that we make entreaties and prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings on behalf of **all** men, as “God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4).

Bearing this in mind, what does today’s message tell us about God’s grace?

What was Jesus’ own attitude toward those who condemned and crucified Him?
(Luke 23:24)

Read Isaiah 62:1-4. Should Christians today love and pray for Israel? Why?

Select helpful resources:

Carson, D.A. Matthew Vol.2 (Ch 13 –28), The Expositor’s Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

France, R.T. The Gospel of Matthew, The New International Commentary on the New Testament. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2007.

MacArthur, John F. Matthew 24 - 28. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1989.

Morris, Leon. The Gospel According to Matthew. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.

Swindoll, Charles R. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary, Volume 1B. Tyndale House, 2020.

Toussant, Stanley. Behold the King – A Study of Matthew. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1980.

Turner, David L. Matthew. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.