

Section of Scripture conveys one of our greatest treasures of Incomparable Worth: Truth

- What could be better than Truth? It is the bedrock of relationships and life
What you believe is True about this world is how you're going to live in this world
- What you believe about Truth is going to dictate what you do and how you do it
1997 - Heaven's Gate – Marshal Applewhite – ET – Next Human Evolutionary – Bop = Acted
The most important question you can answer is? **Who is Jesus?**

Today we investigate a section of text where a Roman Official is confused about Truth

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over 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 have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." ³⁷ 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. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

Last Supper – Garden – Betrayal – Arrest – Jewish – Pilate – Herod – Pilate | Hour's death

Pilate asks a profound question in a passive aggressive way: What is Truth?

'Corner the Market' – Have everything of something control the price | Christians have...

Big Idea - We have truth, and the world needs to hear it

Davenport I saw a guy driving through a parking lot...back and forth...lost...I stopped him

People are lost and they need directions home – **Three Truths from this text**

1. Truth #1: Jesus bewilders the world

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?"

- First bewildered character: Pontius Pilate – Governor – Judea – Tiberius AD 26-36
 - Maintain order – Enforcing Roman Law – Collecting Taxes – Insensitive to Jews
Have you ever had a job you didn't want to do? **Chef Charles | Fired him twice**
- 'Pilate entered his headquarters again' – Doesn't want to deal with this...annoyed
- 'Are you King of the Jews' – Pilate doesn't care about the Jews...quiet & out of way
 - What he does care about is if they have a King – Treason and is a capital offense
- "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?"
 - Is this what you think about me or what you've heard – **Jews have to pin a crime**
- "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" – **What an excellent question...what has Jesus done?**
 - 2nd...Jews = Blasphemer (Forgive sins) | Breaker of Law (Sinners) | Threat to Power

Have two character types that represent the world when it comes to getting Jesus wrong

- Pilate = Frankly doesn't care...Jesus means nothing to him (**Represents Secularism**)
 - Jews = Religious who get Jesus wrong...**Every religion that gets Jesus wrong is a cult**
 - Islam = Prophet | Buddhism = Enlightened | Jew = Denial | Mormon = Spirit Child
 - Jehovah's Witness = Michael | Hinduism = Guru / Avatar | **Scientology = Bonkers**
- Every person, not Christian, fallen victim to one of two traps = **Secularism or Cult** | **Who?**
Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, the Messiah, who is fully God & fully human, and who died on the cross to save humanity from sin and rose again from the dead.
If you do not believe every word of that sentence...you're as bewildered as the world

2. Truth #2: Jesus establishes a greater kingdom

³⁶ 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."

- Clash between earthly power and divine authority | **Pilate thinks he's in control....no no**
- Jesus' Kingdom is not of this world...and my servants would stop this if I asked
- Jesus stands accused of being an earthly King...the King of the Jews...greater kingdom
 - > **Earthly Kings Rule:** Military Might – Political Power – Economic Influence
 - Establish: Conquest – Passing Statutes – Coercion | **Earthly Kingdom's Come and Go**
 - > **Christ's Kingdom:** Eternal - Originates with God not Human Effort or Earthly Ambition
 - Established: Divine Decree – Spiritual Power: Hope – Love – Truth – Sacrifice – HS

All Kingdoms have some things in common: Every Kingdom has a Doman – King – People

- **Domain:** Worldly kingdoms rise and fall over land and power. Draw borders on a map.
 - Jesus' kingdom is not defined by geography, it's of another realm entirely.
 - Kingdom breaking into this world...not sourced by it. Not physical, but spiritual
- **King:** Jesus. 'My Kingdom is not of this world' – **My Car – My House – My Shoes = It's His**
 - He doesn't rule with intimidation...He rules with service, with humility, with grace.
 - He's the of King that would wear a crown of thorns before He wears a crown of glory
 - He is a king that is worthy of submission, of surrender, of obedience.
- **People:** Citizens of Jesus' kingdom aren't chosen on nationality, wealth, or status—grace.
 - Way into His kingdom isn't through earning it—it's by believing and surrendering.
 - His people look different because they live by the values of their King
 - When people look at us, they should catch a glimpse of the King – **Bumper Sticker**
Truth: You are a part of one of two kingdoms; Kingdom of Light or Kingdom of Darkness
Both have a domain: Physical vs Spiritual | Ruler: Jesus vs. Satan | People: Lost vs. saved

3. Truth #3: Jesus settles our eternity

³⁷ 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. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

- So Pilate thinks he has an easy solution '**So you are a King**' – Gets to put Jesus to death
- 'You say that I am King' some versions say 'It is as you say' – Jesus is affirming royalty
- Then Jesus makes the conversation soar...**for this purpose I was born...come into world'**
This text answers the question, 'Why did Jesus come' from his own lips – Witness Truth
What is the Truth? Himself – Father – Humanity & Sin – Kingdom – Salvation – Sets Free
- '**Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice**' – This is your settled eternity
If you know the Truth of the Kingdom then you listen to the King...citizen heavenly eternity
- And where you stand with Jesus determines your eternity – only two options, a long time.
'Take a bird, let it once every thousand years take away a single grain of sand from the earth, and when the bird has removed the whole earth, eternity will have only begun.'

Pilate ends exhausted by the conversation...he asks 'What is truth'

- He's not really asking...He doesn't want a dialogue...he's not like Nicodemus
- **But it's something you should consider...what is truth?** (Let this sit in the room)
Is Jesus the way the truth and the life...has your eternity been settled?

Most important question: Who is Jesus – Jews = Wrong | Pilate = Wrong | You?

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, the Messiah, who is fully God & fully human, and who died on the cross to save humanity from sin and rose again from the dead

That's the Truth