

Psalm Sunday – Hope many of you can come to prayer tonight – Holy Week is incredibly meaningful

- Passion of the Christ – ‘Passion’ Latin = To Endure / To Suffer | Gethsemane ⇒ Death

When you consider the Passion of the Christ – Suffering & Death of Jesus – What do you see?

Images...accurate images: Angry Mobs – Chains – Pole – Whip – Punched – Spit – Robe – Thorn’s

Must not see Helpless - Wasn’t Jesus’ Helplessness | Sports with kids | It was Jesus’ Humility

Self-denying – Self-giving submission, servant, to the perfect will of God | Not Helplessness – Humility

Big Idea - The Road to Resurrection Reminds Believers of Christ’s Humility

Unpack our text today...read it through the lens of Christ’s UNPARALLELED RESTRAINT | PLAYERS

- Sanhedrin – Jewish Ruling Counsel | 71 guys - High Priest – Chief Priests – Elders – Scribes
- Pontius Pilate – Roman Prefector (Governor) Judaea – Imperial Official | Keep Peace – Pay Taxes
- Barabbas – criminal imprisoned for ‘Violence against the government and murder’ | Jesus center

**READ** Three things, represented by three people, Jesus subjected Himself to...

### 1. Defamation From Religious Liars (Sanhedrin)

Last week = Condemned Jesus deserving death...Messiah & Son of God | Sanhedrin Have 2 Problems

- I. **Problem #1** - Kill Jesus and risk that people turn on them en masse!

They have to keep their power – prestige – position so they can continue to profit

What to do?!?! Ever have that problem? Got to kill a guy AND make sure no one is mad at me for it?

- **Solution:** Partner with Enemy - Do unthinkable...turn to Roman Governance...that they hated!  
And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate.

The Jews hated that Rome had ruling power over Jerusalem...the holiest city on the planet

- Pilate...flags of Emperor Tiberius – Graven Images – Protests – Surrounded – Fell & showed necks  
Now they are going to manipulate Pontius Pilate into doing their dirty work

### II. Problem #2 – Pilate doesn’t care about crime of blasphemy | Flying Spaghetti Monster vain

- **Solution:** Fabricate charges – Not calling Himself Son of God...King | Not blasphemy...Treason  
And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Pilate sees through this pitiful line of reasoning...but the mob will not be reasoned with...

- Declares Jesus innocence – Has Jesus beaten to try & satisfy blood lust – Offered a murderer  
<sup>3</sup> And the chief priests accused him of many things.

<sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. 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.” And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” They shouted all the more, “Crucify him.”

Jesus has two mob responses in a week | Palm Sunday & Trial Day ‘Hosanna’ ⇒ ‘Crucify Him’

- Represent a lot of how my life goes – Praising Him one day and then Defaming him the next  
The One who participated in ordering and naming the stars now stands obedient before a jeering mob
- Not obedient to the Sanhedrin...Not to a Roman Governor...To His Father in Heaven | Why?

Because I’m no...we are no better than the ones who jump from ‘Hosanna’ ⇒ ‘Crucify Him’

He took that scorn from us...for us!

He restrains His rights and His power to give grace

How many there came to a saving faith in Jesus after the resurrection? God only knows | 3000 in Acts

Some there went from ‘Hosanna’ ⇒ ‘Crucify Him’ | Some went from ‘Crucify Him’ ⇒ ‘Hosanna’

What are some areas in life you need to turn from ‘Crucify Him’ (Defamation) to ‘Hosanna’ (Praise)

### 2. Contempt From Political Leaders (Pilate)

We actually don’t know much about Pontius Pilate – Years skeptics thought he was fiction

- Pilate Stone – 1960’s – 1<sup>st</sup> Century – Tiberias – ‘Pontius Pilate Prefector of Judea’ | Brian with  
Don’t know much about Pilate...we do know this...He had contempt for this assignment | TROUBLE

Judaea was a terrible post...Jews didn’t like Rome and Rome didn’t like the Jews | 70 | Pilate’s got it

- (Caesarea) Came in for festivals to keep order... whole Jesus thing is ruining his morning

So when Pilate asks this question...it is dripping with sarcasm...

(2) And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” <sup>3</sup> And the chief priests accused him of many things. <sup>4</sup> And Pilate again asked him, “Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you.” <sup>5</sup> But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

He goes from sarcasm to amazement (be in wonder)...how does that happen? Couple of ways...

- ‘Are you King of the Jews’ – If Jesus says ‘Yes’ = Treason | ‘No’ = Lie | ‘You have said so’
  - ‘You would do well to consider the question’ – I’ll be right back – More charges

Jesus made no further answer...no pleas for His life...clamoring about innocence...Calm – Confident

- Pilate then tries to get out of decision...Galilean – Send Him to Herod | Sends back...New idea

<sup>6</sup> Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. <sup>7</sup> And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. <sup>8</sup> And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. <sup>9</sup> And he answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” <sup>10</sup> For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. – As a sign of goodwill...Rome would release a prisoner at the time of the festival

Pilate sees the charges are bogus - Chief Priests are doing this out of envy...but reason isn’t working

- Barabbas...I’ll put that horrible criminal and murderer up here...they won’t let him go! TIME

<sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. <sup>12</sup> And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” <sup>13</sup> And they cried out again, “Crucify him.” <sup>14</sup> And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.”

Barabbas = Son of the father | Law breaking son of a human father...being traded...Sinless Son of God  
Theological– Jesus being traded for the worst sinner they could find | You and I are Barabbas

<sup>15</sup> So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified - Before the cross...there was the post | Flagellum – Whip – Bone & Metal = Pro.

Mark doesn’t make much of its gratuitous nature...because anyone at that time would know...

Profound humility – Jesus Traded– God in the flesh lashed till the flesh was torn from His body

Contempt drove the lashes – Love Traded - Jesus was willing to trade His life for the lash bearer

When Pilate satisfied the crowd...Jews (God) Romans (King)...both had disdain toward His Lordship

### 3. Disdain Toward His Lordship

<sup>16</sup> And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. <sup>17</sup> And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup> And they began to salute him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” <sup>19</sup> And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup> And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

- Battalion was overkill...600 – Fury was taking over and the shame and mocking was in full
- Purple...Roman Cloak | Crown of thorns | Reed = Scepter | Salute ‘Hail, King of the Jews’
  - Mocking Him as King...the Lamb stayed silent – He was taking the shame submitting to God  
Jesus took the shame we deserve...TIME | Shame of sin – Shame of belief – HE TOOK IT!

Both the Jews and the Romans had disdain for His Lordship –

- One for His claim He was the Son of God | One for the claim He was King | They were both right!  
Not just King of the Jews – KING OF KINGS – LORD OF LORDS

For years people have fought over this question: ‘Who killed Jesus?’ – Romans or the Jews?

Who is actually in control of this entire set of circumstances? Sanhedrin? Pilate?

Matt. 20:18 – ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified

Jesus knew he would be delivered by the chief priests – Handed over to Gentiles – Crucified

- Jews didn’t crucify – The stoned prisoners for execution
- Crucifixion was a Roman punishment for slaves and foreigners

Humility of Christ is on awesome display in the promise of being crucified on a Roman cross  
He is a foreigner...He served the will of the Father...and He will be raised up on the third day

This wasn’t Jesus’ Helplessness – It was Jesus Humility

Self-denying – Self-giving submission, servant, to the perfect will of God

When you consider the Passion of the Christ – Suffering & Death of Jesus – What do you see?

Unparalleled Restraint – Stand in our place against defamation – Contempt – Shame | King and Lord