

## **TEXT // John 18:38-19:16** English Standard Version

<sup>38</sup>After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, I find no guilt in him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews? <sup>40</sup>They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate 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." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁵When 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. ¹The 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." ³When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ¹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹¹So 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?" ¹¹Jesus 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.

<sup>12</sup>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." <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" <sup>15</sup>They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." <sup>16</sup>So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

**SERMON OVERVIEW** // The Passover Feast was a notable backdrop for the earthly ministry of Jesus that could go unnoticed if we are not careful to take in the setting surrounding the events of Jesus' life. According to **Exodus 12:5** the Passover required a sacrificial lamb which must be **without blemish**. An Israelite family would inspect their sacrificial lamb for three days in order to make sure it was without blemish. If we carefully inspect the three years surrounding Jesus' public ministry we too will discover He was without blemish. **Jesus is the true and final Passover Lamb**.

## SERMON GUIDE //

- 1. The Passover Lamb was **rejected**. (18:38-40)
- 2. The Passover Lamb was **abused**. (19:1-3)
- 3. The Passover Lamb was **condemned**. (19:4-12)
- 4. The Passover Lamb was **sentenced**. (19:13-17)

**SERMON APPLICATION** // J.C. Ryle writes: "Our Lord was clothed with a robe of shame and contempt, that we might be clothed with a spotless garment of righteousness, and stand in white robes before the throne of God." (John 3:305) The true and final Passover Lamb was rejected, abused, condemned, and sentenced **in our place** - for God's glory. We are to tell everyone possible that Jesus died in our place - for our freedom.

Question 1 // Read John 18:38-19:16. What is something from the text that resonated with you, a truth that encouraged you, or even a question you may have surrounding the text theme?

**Question 2** // At the end of chapter eighteen, we get the narrative about Barabbas. Throughout the Gospels, we learn that Barabbas was a notorious prisoner, murderer, and insurrectionist. However, the crowd wanted him to be released over Jesus. What is it about Jesus that brought forward this response? How does this translate today to how some people look at Jesus?

Question 3 // Read John 19:10-11. Here, Jesus and Pilate talk about authority. Jesus knew that all authority had been given to Pilate from God, and that he could have comfort in this. John Piper says that this serves as a reminder that, "our comfort comes not from the powerlessness of our enemies, but from our Father's sovereign rule over their power." What Pilate meant for evil, God meant for good. Discuss the truth of God's sovereignty and the comfort we can have in that, despite our current circumstances?

**Question 4** // Adam preached through this text and pointed out the truths that Jesus, the Passover Lamb was rejected, beaten, condemned, and sentenced. The suffering Christ went through is evident in this passage, and we haven't gotten to the crucifixion yet. How does your heart respond when you consider all that Jesus endured on his way to cross?

## **Reflection & Prayer**

Spend time in praying that God would daily remind us of these truths of the true and final Passover Lamb. If we forget these truths in regards to ourselves - we will forget these truths in regards to the lost in Williamsburg. Be praying for people in your life right now you can begin investing in while praying for space to engage in gospel conversations.