"When Evil Prevails"

New Hope Community Church March 20th, 2022 Luke 23:1-12

A. The Accusers of Jesus (1-7)

- 1. They were obsessed with their intent to **destroy** Jesus
- 2. They were willing to fabricate false charges
- 3. They were willing to betray their own belief system in hypocrisy

B. The Authorities Examining Jesus

- 1. Pilate, the Roman Governor (1-7)
 - His motivation was not justice
 - He saw his opportunity to escape responsibility
- 2. Herod, the Jewish ruler over the region of Galilee (8-12)
 - His motivation was curiosity, not justice
 - He had no interest in the truth about Jesus
- 3. Friendships are often formed over shared evil values

Personal Reflection

How are we to navigate a world of evil rulers? Read I Peter 2:21-25

- 1) Jesus set for us an **example** (21) We are to follow "in His steps"
- 2) He was perfect and without any **guilt** (22) We like to compare "down", but really we're to compare "up"
- 3) He kept His attention on the Kingdom of **Heaven** (23) "entrusted Himself to the righteous judge God"
- 4) He endured injustice so that we might live to **righteousness** (24,25) We were "healed", delivered from the sickness of sin

Let us follow our Shepherd as we suffer unjustly for righteousness!

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Life Group Discussion Questions Week of March 20, 2022

Read Luke 23:1-12 together.

- 1. Describe the characteristics of the accusers of Jesus.
- 2. Pilate and Herod were motivated by what as they examined Jesus?
- 3. As followers of Jesus, how are we to navigate a world of evil rulers?

How can we pray for you this week?