

Jesus For Everyone – Week 21

Luke 22:66-23:56. Easter Sunday. April 20, 2025

Luke 22:66 When daylight came, the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the scribes, convened and brought him before their Sanhedrin. They said, “If you are the Messiah, tell us.” But he said to them, “If I do tell you, you will not believe. And if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” They all asked, “Are you, then, the Son of God?” And he said to them, “You say that I am.” “Why do we need any more testimony,” they said, “since we’ve heard it ourselves from his mouth?”

Luke 23:1 Then their whole assembly rose up and brought him before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation, opposing payment of taxes to Caesar, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.” So Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.”

Luke 23:32 Two others — criminals — were also led away to be executed with him. When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided his clothes and cast lots. The people stood watching, and even the leaders were scoffing: “He saved others; let him save himself if this is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked him. They came offering him sour wine and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!” An inscription was above him: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Why the Obsession With Jesus’ Kingship?

- **It Was a Threat to Some.**
- **It Was a Hope for Many.**

Why The Rejection of Jesus’ Kingship?

- **Did Not Understand Their King Needed to Die to Save Them from Sin.**

Luke 23:39 Then one of the criminals hanging there began to yell insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other answered, rebuking him: “Don’t you even fear God, since you are undergoing the same punishment? We are punished justly, because we’re getting back what we deserve for the things we did, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And he said to him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

The Repentant Thief Might Ask Us:

- **Do You Understand Your Need for Jesus’ Death?**
- **Do You Accept Jesus’ Authority Over Your Life?**
- **Do You Joyfully Live in Christ’s Kingdom?**
- **Do You Look Forward to Eternal Paradise?**