

In John 18:28-19:16 the trial of Jesus before Pilate takes center stage. There are so many important details in this passage that I encourage you to get online and listen to the message if you were not able to be there. In these verses we witnessed the dishonest Jewish religious leaders who cared more about power and ritual cleanness than having a clean heart. We also witnessed a coward named Pilate who knew the right thing to do and did not do it. Three times in this passage he declared "I find no guilt in Him." We also witnessed Jesus who though He was on trial, became the judge. He told Pilate about His kingdom and His authority. Pilate knew that Jesus was not guilty of what He's being accused of. The Jewish religious leaders and Pilate had a choice. Will we choose the kingdom of this world which is grounded in pride, works, and power or will we choose the kingdom of Jesus Christ which is grounded in grace, faith, and truth? While the kingdom of Jesus is active in the world and is impacting the world, it is not of this world. His kingdom is a kingdom of truth. Jesus was born to bear witness to the truth. Just like Pilate and the Jewish religious leaders, we also have a choice, **When faced with the many choices of life, will we choose the kingdom of heaven or the kingdom of this world?** Will we choose treasures on earth or treasures in heaven? Will we choose comfort on earth or rewards in heaven? Will we choose humility or pride? Will we choose truth or power?