

## The Gospel of John: Return of the King

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Text: John 19:16b-42 (page 905-906)

Doubt your doubts.

I'm glad it's not me. (John 19:16b-27)

Move your Judgment Day. (John 19:28-30)

Blood and water (John 19:31-37)

Out of the shadows (John 19:38-42)

**Memory Verse:** John 19:17-19 ...and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

Food for Thought for the week of January 27, 2019

(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion.)

1. John invites us to stand and look at Jesus on the cross, to go deep into our hearts as we think about what is happening. As you stand there, what do you see? What do you hear?
2. God is pulling the strings here, even as He leads Pilate to put a sign above Jesus head that calls Him everyone's King. Do you struggle with any part of this? How about as it relates to difficult things that have happened to you?
3. The Jews didn't want this King and neither do we. What area of your life struggles the most to bow to Jesus?
4. Discuss as a group (or reflect on your own) the idea of God's wrath and judgment. Why does our world not like this idea? Why is it so important to connect God's wrath to the cross?
5. What are some of the symbolic connections that John makes with his focus on "blood and water?"
6. Joseph and Nicodemus had secretly been considering following Jesus. Now, as they look at Jesus on the cross, they are compelled to come into the light. Are there areas of your life that Jesus is calling you to do the same?