

BIBLE STUDY: LESSON 32

Scripture of Lesson: John 18: 28 ~ 19:16

1. Jesus Christ standing in Pilate's court as a criminal

a. Paradox in the Jewish leaders' choice –They wanted to keep themselves pure to eat the Passover Lamb and yet they were condemning the Lamb of God to death. [v. 28, 30]

. Isaiah 53: 3 *"He is despised and rejected of man."*

b. Jesus' testimony before Pilate

i. He testified He is the king [v. 34, 37] – The king of kings stood in humility in the judgment hall as a criminal on our behalf.

. Isaiah 53:3-4 *"And we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."*

ii. He testified about His kingdom [v. 36]

. Daniel 2: 44 *"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a Kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the Kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."*

iii. He testified about the purpose of His coming—to bear witness unto the truth. [v. 37]

. John 14:6 *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me."*

2. Pilate's decision and the people's choice

a. Pilate, the crowd and the Messiah

i. Pilate found no fault with Jesus [v. 19: 4, 6]

ii. The soldiers mocked Him with a crown of thorns. [v. 19: 5]

iii. The 'mobilized' crowd, as guided by Caiaphas, pressured Pilate to condemn Jesus to death: v. 19: 6—
"Crucify him, crucify him."

. Jesus kept silent. Isaiah 53: 7 *"He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not his mouth; He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth."*

b. Pilate's assertion of his authority over Jesus. [v. 19: 10]

i. V. 19: 11 *"Thou couldst have no power at all against me, unless it were given thee from above. Therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin."*

ii. Political leaders often have arrogant sense of their political powers as merited of their own.

Ps 75: 5~7 *"Lift not up your horn on high; speak not with a stiff neck. For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south, but God is the Judge: He puts down one, and sets up another."*

c. Pilate yielded to political expediency and condemned the King of the Jews to be crucified. [v. 9: 12]

i. How vulnerable are we to social/ political pressures and easily forsake our stand with Christ?

1) V. 9: 14 *"Away with him, away with him!... We have no king but Caesar."*

2) What king are we serving?

d. What should our stand be when we face crucial decisions?

. I Pet 4: 16 *"Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on this account."*

. I Cor 15: 57 *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."*