

## “What Shall I Do With Jesus?”

Matt. 27:15-25

### Introduction:

1. Jesus is:
  - a. Co-eternal with God, John 8:58; Exodus 3:13-14.
  - b. Co-existent with God, John 1:1-3.
  - c. Co-equal with God, Phil. 2:5-8
  - d. Our access to the Father, John 14:6.
2. Jesus will be our Judge in that last day, Acts 17:30-31.
3. Therefore in view of these facts every accountable person should ask himself the question, “what shall I do with Jesus?”
  - a. There is no greater question that one can ask than this question, for the answer to this question, and our response to this question, determines the condition of my soul, as well as where I will spend eternity.
  - b. This question is one with which Pilate had to grapple, Matthew 27:15-16.

### Discussion.

#### I. Observations from our text.

- A. Pilate, the Roman Governor, was faced with a Dilemma! He had to make a decision.
- B. He Knew Jesus was Innocent.
  1. Luke 23:4,14,22.
  2. He knew the Jews had delivered him because of envy, Matt. 27:18.
- C. His own wife interceded in behalf of Jesus, Matt. 27:19.
  1. Amazingly, at this crucial time in His life, the only one who appealed in behalf of Jesus was the wife of a heathen governor!
- D. Pilate tried to shift Responsibility.
  1. To Herod, Luke 23:7
    - a. But Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate, Luke 23:11.
  2. To the people, Matthew 27:16-18; Luke 23:19.
- E. When the people requested the release of Barabbas, Pilate said “*what shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ,*” Matt. 27:22.
  1. To Pilate’s surprise and dismay, the people said “*Let Him be crucified!*” Matt. 27:22.
  2. They preferred a murderer over the Prince of life!
- F. Finally Pilate washed his hands, claimed personal innocence, and delivered Jesus to be crucified.
  1. Matthew 27:24-26.
  2. Amazingly, the people said “*His blood be on us, and on our children,*” Matt. 27:25.
    - a. Little did they realize the full significance of what they were saying!
- G. Pilate then released Barabbas, had Jesus scourged, and delivered Him to be crucified, Matt. 27:26.

#### II. What Others have done with Jesus.

- A. Judas Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, Matthew 26:14-16.
  1. The price of a slave gored by an ox! Exodus 21:32.
  2. Money he never spent! Matthew 27:3-5.
- B. Peter said “*I know not the man,*” Matthew 26:69-75.
  1. After repeatedly saying “*though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended,*” Matt. 26:33-35.
- C. The Disciples forsook Him and fled, Mark 14:50.
- D. The Sanhedrin Court sentenced Jesus to die, Matt. 27:1
  1. The night before they said “*He hath spoken blasphemy,*” and therefore “*He is guilty of death,*” Matt. 26:63-66.
  2. When they took Jesus to Pilate they said “*we found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar,*” Luke 23:2.
- E. The soldiers crucified Jesus, John 19:23.
  1. They also divided His garments, and gambled for the seamless robe, John 19:23.
    - a. In so doing, prophecy was being fulfilled! Psalm 22:18.
- F. Herod Mocked Jesus, Luke 23:7-11.

- G. The Crowd mocked Jesus, Matt. 27:39-42.
- H. Saul of Tarsus persecuted Jesus, Acts 9:4.
- I. Felix waited for a convenient season, Acts 24:25.

### III. What Am I Doing with Jesus?

- A. Many are simply playing the waiting game.
  - 1. Like Felix, waiting for a more convenient season.
  - 2. This is a dangerous "game" to play! Prov. 27:1; James 4:14.
- B. Many are Almost Persuaded.
  - 1. Like King Agrippa, before whom Paul had made his defense, and who knew the truth, Acts 26:28.
- C. Many are holding on the world.
  - 1. This was the problem with the rich young ruler, Matt. 19:21-22/
- D. Many are rejecting Jesus for the doctrines and commandments of men.
  - 1. In so doing they are committing spiritual suicide! 2 John 9-11.

### IV. What Should I Do with Jesus?

- A. If one is not a Christian, he should obey the gospel of Christ, Romans 1:16.
  - 1. Believe on Jesus Christ as the Son of God, Matt. 16:16; John 8:24.
  - 2. Repent of sin, Acts 17:30.
    - a. Repentance is preceded by godly sorrow, 2 Cor. 7:10, and it involves a 180 degree turn – turning from wrong to right, from error to truth.
  - 3. Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10.
  - 4. Be Baptized for the remission of sins, Acts 2:38; 22:16.
    - a. Baptism is the culminating act of obedience which takes one from being out of Christ to being in Christ, Gal. 3:27.
    - b. It is essential to be "*in Christ*," 2 Tim. 2:10.
- B. If one is an erring child of God, he must:
  - 1. Repent, Acts 8:22.
  - 2. Pray, Acts 8:22.
  - 3. Confess his sins, 1 John 1:9.
    - a. If he has sinned publicly he should confess it publicly, James 5:16.

### Conclusion:

- 1. There was a day when Jesus stood before Pilate's judgment bar, and Pilate had to make a decision. Some day Pilate will stand before the Judgment bar of Jesus, 2 Cor. 5:10.
- 2. In a sense, Jesus now stands before our judgment bar. We are called upon to make a decision, but we are not forced to follow Jesus. Some day we will stand before His judgment bar. What we do with Him now can very well determine what He will do with us then!
- 3. We cannot successfully ignore Jesus!
  - a. One is either for or against Jesus, Matt. 12:30.
  - b. One either receives or rejects Jesus, John 1:12; John 12:48.
  - c. One either confesses or denies Jesus, Matt. 10:32-33.
- 4. Right now, the question is "*what shall I do with Jesus;*" some day the question will be "*what will Jesus do with me?*" The answer to that question depends upon your answer to the first question!

--Bobby Witherington, July 12, 2015