
SERMON NOTES MARCH 21, 2021

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

John 19:1-16 The Trial of Pilate Pastor Mike

Opening question; _____

I. The presentation of Jesus as _____

a. His torture demonstrated his _____

b. His suffering demonstrated the _____

c. Our response to _____

II. How trials reveal the _____

a. Our need to believe we are _____

b. The _____ of not being in control

III. How our fear or peace reveals our _____

a. We aren't our _____ and don't _____

b. We will be controlled by _____

IV. Finding our source and identity _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. Pilate and the Roman soldiers sought to mock and refute Jesus' claims to be a king by demonstrating his powerless in his flogging and the mockery of the crown of thorns and the robe. Why did they not succeed?
 - a. How did his flogging and the mockery of the crown and robe demonstrate Jesus' sovereign control?
 - b. How did Jesus' suffering through this beating and mockery demonstrate the nature of his kingdom? What is the significance of the robe?
2. Three times in Jesus' trial Pilate proclaims "I find no guilt in him, and John 19:12 tells us that Pilate wanted to release Jesus. Yet in spite of this Pilate still has Jesus flogged, and then handed him over to be crucified.
 - a. Why did Pilate do this in spite of the fact that it was odds with both what he believed to be true and what he wanted to do?
 - b. What can we learn about ourselves from the example of Pilate? Do you ever act in a way that is at odds with what you believe to be true and/or what you want to do? If so, when, and what causes you to do so?
3. John 19 presents an extreme contrast between Pilate who as the Roman governor of Judea was the symbol of Roman power and wealth, and Jesus. Jesus stood before Pilate bound, beaten, and seemingly powerless and at his mercy.
 - a. Yet in his message Pastor Mike argued that it was Pilate who was on trial, not Jesus. What does he mean by this? How was Pilate on trial?
 - b. In the trial Pilate is driven by fear, while Jesus seems to be at peace. What was the source of Jesus' peace? What was the source of Pilate's fear?
 - c. What can we learn about ourselves and our fear from Pilate?
4. In his message Pastor Mike said that our fear or peace in life in the midst of trials and crisis reveals who or what we believe to be the source of our identity and our blessings.
 - a. The first crisis we face is in the reality that we are not our own source of these things, and therefore we don't control the future. How did Pilate try to prove to himself that he was in control? How do we try to do this in our own lives? Why will this always fail?
 - b. Pastor Mike said that we will always be controlled by the person and/or things that we believe to be the source of our identity and blessings, or those who we believe can threaten them. Do you agree that this is always the case?
 - c. Who did Pilate believe was his source, and how was he controlled by that belief? When you become fearful in times of trial or threat, what does it reveal about who you believe is your source?
5. Practically, how can we find our source and identity in God?