



March 3, 2024
Worship Service
Pastor Bruce Adrian
WeAreLifeBridge.com

Journey to the Cross

Lesson Five • Matthew 27:11-26

A Perplexed Politician

A Basin of Water

It is the tragic image of Pilate's life, but more importantly it is a symbol for the ultimate question of every human being:
WHAT CAN WASH AWAY MY SIN?

He took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood." Matthew 27:24

Who is Pilate?

Pilate served as Roman GOVERNOR of Judea from A.D. 26 to 36.

What were Pilate's responsibilities?

Pilate was responsible to collect TAXES for Rome and keep the PEACE of Rome.

Why deliver Jesus to Pilate?

Pilate had the power to execute the DEATH sentence.

A Perplexed Politician

1. Pilate's Dilemma: "Are You the KING of the Jews?" (v. 11)

The Trial Before Pilate

- Jesus was ACCUSED by the religious leaders (v. 12).
- Pilate was AMAZED by Jesus' silence (v. 13-14).

2. Pilate's Deliberation: "Then what shall I DO with Jesus who is called Christ?" (v. 22)

The Cowardice of Pilate

- Pilate tried to ESCAPE his duty by sending the case to Herod (Lk. 23:6-7).
- Pilate tried to APPEASE the crowd by scourging Jesus (Jn. 19:1-5).
- Pilate tried to BARGAIN for Jesus' release (Mt. 27:15-23).

3. Pilate's Decision: "I am INNOCENT of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." (v. 24)

The Guilt of Pilate

Pilate is GUILTY, regardless of washing his hands and saying he's innocent. He released Barabbas (who is guilty) to the crowd and delivered Jesus (who is innocent) to be crucified (v. 26).

"His Blood Be on Us"

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the BLOOD of Jesus.

And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Matthew 27:25
The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. . . . Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out.
Acts 3:13-15, 19

Unavoidable Question All Must Answer

What will you do with Jesus who is called Christ?