

Behold Your King!

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, November 1, 2015; Steve Thiel

Pilate was appointed by emperor Tiberius and served as governor of Judea from 26 A.D. to 36 A.D. According to God's sovereign and perfect plan, he had numerous interactions with Jesus and was given glorious revelation; including insight on the nature of Christ's Kingdom, the concept of truth, and the reality of divine authority. Pilate was also the divine instrument used to declare Jesus innocent and the true King of the Jews. God's sovereign hand over all of these details should give us great courage and confidence to live boldly for the gospel!

I. A Sinless King – Read John 18:33-40 and answer the following questions.

- A. What are all the things that you know about Pontius Pilate and his relationship with the Jews?

- B. What do you think about Jesus' interaction with Pilate? How does Jesus describe His Kingdom?

- C. According to Jesus, what do we know about truth? Do you think Pilate is interested in truth?

- D. What is Pilate's conclusion during his first interaction with Jesus? What does he offer the Jews?

II. A Suffering King – Read John 19:1-11 and answer the following questions

- A. In what ways did Jesus suffer? What was Pilate trying to accomplish by torturing Jesus?

- B. What accusation did the Jews have against Jesus, and what impact did this have on Pilate?

- C. How did Jesus respond to Pilate during his second round of questioning?

- D. In what ways is Jesus' comment regarding authority (v.11) an encouragement to your faith?

III. A Sacrificed King – Read John 19:12-16 and answer the following questions

- A. How did the Jews manipulate Pilate into crucifying Jesus, a man he knew was innocent?

- B. How does the Passover (Exodus 11-12) help you think about Jesus' finished work on the cross?

- C. What is the significance of the Jews statement, "We have no king but Caesar" (v.15)?

- D. Read Acts 4:27-31. If you absolutely believed that God is sovereign over all things and that He is always good, what impact would that have on your everyday life?