



BOOK *of* JOHN

THE LONGSUFFERING KING

JOHN 19:1-16

The God-man, Jesus, was innocent. What would you have done with your unlimited power?

- What would have been the fate of the angry mob, the Sanhedrin, the soldiers, or Pilate?
- What would you have said or done to your accusers?
- Would you still be in love with your Jewish family?

Our story continues: Herod had found nothing worthy of death in Jesus which encouraged Pilate to confront the Jewish leaders and to seek to release the prisoner.

YOU, ME, AND THE ANGRY MOB

Who in their right mind would choose Barabbas the robber (**John 18:40**), a notorious prisoner (**Matt. 27:16**), an insurrectionist, and a murderer (**Luke 23:19**) over the innocent Jesus?

- We did when we chose to follow a life of sin!
- What did Jesus suffer for us? He was slapped, had His beard plucked out, was beaten, spat on, scourged, mocked, verbally abused, crowned with thorns, and dressed in a costume—all before He was led to Golgotha.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? v. 8-16

Can you imagine this question being asked after the prisoner has nearly been beaten to death?

- Every word Pilate spoke became another point of self-condemnation! He was guilty, not Jesus.
- Pilate was not going to get any answers; he would simply be left with his fear!
- Jesus' silence before both Herod and Pilate was a fulfillment of **Isaiah 53:7**.
- God would have the last word!

IT WAS PILATE THAT WAS POWERLESS

- All authority comes from God—pagan or pious (**Rom. 13:1-7**). Jesus was saying, *Pilate, the only power you have is the power My Father and I have given you!*
- Pilate was sealing his own fate, not that of Jesus. Matthew tells us that Pilate washed his hands before the crowd. **Matt. 27:24**
- But no amount of water could cleanse his heart.
- It was Pilate who was on trial, not Jesus!

THE POWER OF OUR CHOICES

God is longsuffering and not willing that any should perish (**2 Peter 3:9**), but you must choose and your choice determines your eternity.

- The crowd chose Caesar and Barabbas; Pilate chose the crowd.
- From the human standpoint, the trial of Jesus was the greatest crime and tragedy in history.
- From the divine viewpoint, it was the fulfillment of prophecy and the accomplishment of the will of God.

JESUS CHOSE TO SUFFER AND DIE FOR YOU AND ME, BUT WE STILL HAVE TO CHOOSE THE LONGSUFFERING KING!

- He died for us. May we live for Him.
- He loved us so much that He restrained His power and allowed His life to be forfeited for us and for His people Israel.