



## HIS STORY – HIS PEOPLE “Pontius Pilate” John 18:1-19:16

No. 3076

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Pontius Pilate presiding over the trial of Jesus asked, “What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” He asked the right question, but gave the wrong answer.

### I. Events Before the Trial.

- A. The antagonism to Jesus. John 11:53-57
  - 1. Pharisees because He challenged their teaching.
  - 2. Sadducees because He exposed their rackets.
  - 3. Herodians because He threatened their power base.
- B. The adulation of Jesus. John 12:1-19
  - 1. The resurrection of Lazarus.
  - 2. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- C. The arrest of Jesus. John 18:2-11
  - 1. The treachery of Judas.
  - 2. The dignity of Jesus.
- D. The arraignment of Jesus.
  - 1. Before Annas – no witness to start proceedings. John 18:12f
  - 2. Before Caiaphas and Sanhedrin. Matthew 26:57f
    - a. Illegal procedures.
    - b. “Guilt” established.
    - c. Sentence passed.
    - d. Pilate’s permission required.

### II. Jesus Before Pilate.

- A. Pilate’s dilemma.
  - 1. Politically, he was unpopular with both Jerusalem and Rome.
  - 2. Personally, his wife told him to have nothing to do with Jesus.
  - 3. Professionally, he had to administer justice and maintain law and order.
  - 4. Privately, he was intrigued with Jesus.
- B. Pilate’s discovery.
  - 1. Jesus was the King of a kingdom “not of this world.”
  - 2. Jesus was the embodiment of “Truth.”
  - 3. Jesus claimed to be “the Son of God.”
- C. Pilate’s dodges.
  - 1. Jesus is not my issue – “take him yourselves and judge him.”
  - 2. Someone else can decide – “He sent him to Herod.” Luke 23:7
  - 3. Maybe I can compromise so I don’t have to decide – Barabbas.
  - 4. I’ll deny Him and declare myself innocent – “washed his hands.”
- D. Pilate’s downfall.
  - “Fear of man will prove to be a snare.” Proverbs 29:25

**Point to Ponder:** “What shall I do with Jesus?”