

SERMON OUTLINE John 18:38b-19:16

The Trials and Denials of Jesus - Part 3

THE ROMAN TRIALS OF FRIDAY MORNING

Pilate (John 18:29-38a)

Herod (Luke 23:6-11)

Pilate (18:38b-19:16)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big idea of this passage is that although the trials against Jesus were anything but just, they were, nevertheless, the means by which God had sovereignly chosen to save the world. And the main takeaway for us is to trust in Jesus in such a way that gladly causes us to stand firm against any opposition that comes our way for doing so.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What do you think of the fact that God used the sins of people to save people from their sins?
3. Have you ever considered the harmony of the four Gospels? How does it show the wisdom of God?
4. Where have you been tempted to avoid your responsibilities because they were too hard or costly?
5. How have you found Proverbs 29:11 to be true in your life?
6. How do you find the line between sinful appeasement and reasonable compromise?
7. Can you name a few ways in which Jesus' kingdom is an "upside down" kingdom?
8. Can you tell the difference between righteous and unrighteous anger? How often do you feel each?
9. Is the relationship between God's sovereignty and your responsibility a source of encouragement or discouragement?
10. How have you used your God-given gifts for good? Where have you used them for harm?
11. In what ways did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Read the rest of John, chapters 19-21 to prepare yourself for the rest of our time in the Gospel.
13. Use whatever authority you have to bless those under your authority in a specific way this week.
14. Read a harmony of the Roman trials of Jesus. Write down something you notice in the harmony that you otherwise missed.
15. Make a list of your most important responsibilities. Pray through every one of them, asking God to help you gladly fulfill them.
16. Hold back your "spirit" (Proverbs 29:11).
17. Perform a specific act of love toward someone who has mistreated you.
18. Try to depict the events of this passage in some way (drawing, painting, poem, song, sculpture, etc.).
19. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
20. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

21. Adoration. Praise God for being sovereign, wise, and good. Praise God that He is perfectly holy and righteous. Praise God for being personal, patient, kind, gracious, and merciful. Praise God that He is perfect and guiltless. Praise God for being King.
22. Confess. Confess any injustices you've committed. Confess any ways you've chosen to appease rather than find a godly compromise. Confess any ways you've been more afraid of man than God or obeyed man instead of God.
23. Thanksgiving. Thank Jesus for using the sin of men to become sin on behalf of sinners. Thank Jesus for inviting you into His kingdom of love and light and life. Thank God for giving us four Gospels and a church that loves to live in light of them.
24. Supplication. Ask God to save someone you love. Ask God to help us honor Him as King. Ask God to make us a people who walk in humility, love justice, and practice mercy. Ask God to make us fear Him alone. Ask God to amaze us with His glory.