



Part 7: The Government Cover-Ups

INTRODUCTION – The Necessary Plot Twist

Mark 15:1

Pontius Pilate – Drowning Character In The Crowd

Matthew 27:11-31; Mark 15:1-20; Luke 23:1-25; John 18:28-19:16

TAKE OUT: Ask yourself, who do I let _____ truth for me?

If truth is *conceptual*, it is accessed through _____
If truth is *personal*, it is accessed through _____

Relationship takes:

- i) _____
- ii) _____
- iii) _____

TAKE OUT: What crowd pulls you toward becoming less of _____.

Pilate's Past – A Key To Understanding His Actions

TAKE OUT: Ask yourself, what _____ hold me captive?

CONCLUSION – Who Is Your King?

John 19:13-16

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.
2. Discuss the implications of this quote by John Gilmore (professor at Spurgeon's School of Theology, London) for your life: "Unless we advance to self-scrutiny we have missed a major benefit. We must go from reading to reflection, from historical investigation to spiritual evaluation, or by default we participate in our own impoverishment."

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. One of the tactics used by Pilate to avoid responsibility (and perhaps just to bug the Jewish leaders who he knew were on a tight timeline with Passover coming in a few hours) was to send Jesus to Herod Antipas, ruler of the area of Israel that Jesus was from. Read Luke's account of this event in **Luke 23:4-12**. a) In what ways might Herod's reaction to meeting Jesus in v. 8 have parallels in what attracts people to Jesus today? b) What lessons for us are behind Jesus' reaction to Herod's questions in v. 9? (After answering, also move on to see **Matthew 7:6; 12:38-40; 21:23-27; Luke 22:67-68**.) c) What is the significance of v. 10? d) What are some of levels of irony that Luke intends for us to see in v. 12?

SO WHAT?...

4. Read **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**. a) What verse stands out to you as most significant? Why? b) In what relationship of your life are you in need of a greater experience of reconciliation? c) What could you do this week to work more with God rather than against him in this area? d) Pray for each other regarding these situations.

Bruce Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, May 11 / 18, 2003