

Jesus Before Pilate

Mark 15:1-15

Context: After facing the High Priest, Jesus is now handed over to the Roman governor of Judea, Pilate.

As we see Jesus before Pilate....

I. _____ the false accusations (vs. 1-4)

A. Looking at the gospel accounts, we see quite a multitude of people. The Jewish leaders had to fabricate new accusations against Jesus when they brought him before Pilate. The charge of blasphemy would mean nothing to the Roman governor, so they accused Jesus of three other crimes:

1. Tax Evasion - Encouraging the people to not pay their taxes to Rome (Luke 23:2)
2. Treason - Claiming he was a king—"the King of the Jews," (Matthew 27:11; Luke 23:2)
3. Terrorism - Causing riots all over the countryside. (Luke 23:2, 5)

II. _____ to the silence of Jesus (vs. 5)

- A. Christ's innocence had already been declared by the Roman governor (Luke 23:4; John 18:38), making any additional defense unnecessary. (John MacArthur)
- B. Jesus' silence fulfilled prophecy - Isaiah 53:7 (ESV) "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth."

III. _____ the Gospel message of Barabbas (vs. 6-15)

- A. Barabbas is a guilty insurrectionist who spoke against Rome. Jesus was the innocent messiah who came to save us. Barabbas is released to freedom while Jesus is condemned to die.
- B. In the Gospel, we are released to freedom from our sins while Jesus was condemned to die on a cross for our sins.