

15 Minutes of Shame

1. Look at Matthew 27:11-14, John 18:35 & Luke 3:1. Who was Pontius Pilate?

Nationality: _____

Job / Position: _____

2. Jesus had already been arrested and tried by the chief priests (14:53-72). Why did they "deliver him over to Pilate?"

_____ (John 18:31)

3. What does this passage say about Pilate's earthly authority that the chief priests didn't have?

John 18:31

4. What reasons did Pilate have to send Jesus to Herod? (Luke 23:4; 6-7)

1)

2)

5. What did this interaction between Pilate & Herod over Jesus' fate do for these two men?

-They became _____ (Luke 23:12)

6. Application Question: Have you ever thought about the fact that Jesus actually had multiple trials? He faced the chief priests, Herod and Pilate. How does it impact you to think of Jesus being tried three times?

7. Read each Scripture. What does each one tell us about Pilate's thoughts about the legitimacy of the Jews arguments and claims against Jesus?

-Matthew 27:18 & Mark 15:10: He thought their claims came from: _____

-Mark 15:12 Pilate seriously considered their complaints: True / False

-Luke 23:14 Pilate agreed with their assessment of Jesus. True / False

8. Application Question: Pilate rejected the legitimacy of the chief priests' accusations. So, even a worldly leader disagreed with the motivation to kill Jesus. How does this impact your understanding of God's sense of justice?

15 Minutes of Shame

9. Did Pilate conclude that Jesus was innocent or guilty? (Circle One)

Matthew 27:23 & Mark 15:14 - Innocent / Guilty

Luke 23:4 - Innocent / Guilty

Luke 23:14 - Innocent / Guilty

Luke 23:20 - Innocent / Guilty

John 18:38 - Innocent / Guilty

John 19:4 - Innocent / Guilty

John 19:6 - Innocent / Guilty

John 19:12 - Innocent / Guilty

10. What perspective did Pilate's wife contribute to Pilate's thoughts about Jesus' guilt?

-She wanted Pilate to: _____ (Matthew 27:18-19)

11. What tactics did the Jewish leaders use to convince Pilate and force his hand?

-They bound and arrested Jesus and gave him to _____. (Matthew 27:2)

-They _____ Jesus in front of Pilate. (Matthew 27:12)

-They stirred up the _____ against Jesus. (Matthew 27:20)

-They brought many _____ against Jesus. (Mark 15:4)

-They accused him of _____ Caesar. (John 19:12)

12. What was Pilate's ultimate motivation for condemning Jesus and releasing Barabbas? _____ (Mark 15:15)

13. Pilate washed his hands as a sign of his innocence of Jesus' blood. Was Pilate innocent of Jesus' blood as he said? (Matt. 27:24; Mark 15:16; John 18:31) Why? Why not?

Application Question: Have you ever done something that you knew was wrong but you were too embarrassed to act like it was wrong? What are some things we do to try and avoid the guilt we rightly deserve?

The Apostle, Paul, said that he does not judge himself. What freed Paul from concern about the judgment of others or his own judgment? (1 Corinthians 4:3) Do you live according to this reality? Whose opinion matters most to you?

We have all sinned and failed God miserably. Pilate's not the only one. Jesus, who Pilate delivered to death, is alive again and offers hope to those who call on Him. How can you call on him for the first time, or the hundredth? What areas of guilt can you ask Jesus to cleanse today?