

AD Pt. 15 "What is truth?"

At no point in his journey to the cross did Jesus find himself in a situation that he did not clearly plan in advance for.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" 62 "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." 63 The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. 64 "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" They all condemned him as worthy of death. Mark 14:61-64

Pilate was faced with the same dilemma that we have all faced in one way or another. What am I going to do about Jesus?

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king." Luke 23:1-2

29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?" 30 "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you." 31 Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." "But we have no right to execute anyone," they objected. 32 This took place to fulfill what Jesus had said about the kind of death he was going to die. 33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" John 18:29-33

'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?' Luke 7:20

22 "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 23 Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." Luke 7:22

"Are you the king of the Jews?" John 18:33

34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?" 35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?" 36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place." 37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born

and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” John 18:33-37

By giving his life, Jesus’ spiritual kingdom could never be hijacked with selfish earthly motives.

(Slides only) *“He does not confess his Messiahship until the moment when the danger of founding a religion is finally past.” Karl Barth*

38 “What is truth?” John 18:38a

He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Isaiah 53:3

“I find no basis for a charge against him.” John 18:38b

Jesus chose the cross. It was not thrust upon Him and he was not cast upon it.

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24