

John 19:1-6

- 1 So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him*.
- 2 And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put *it* on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.
- 3 Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands.
- 4 Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him."
- 5 Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.  
And *Pilate* said to them, "Behold the Man!"
- 6 Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify *Him*, crucify *Him!*" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify *Him*, for I find no fault in Him."

## ***"Beholding Jesus"*** ***John 19:1-16***

INTRO:

When we arrive at **John 19** we find ourselves again reading about Jesus' trial. When we see the way our Sinless Savior was treated, we catch a glimpse of what Isaiah meant when he wrote **Isaiah 53:1-3** ***"Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him."***

Jesus was before Pilate and then the crowd. The Jewish leaders brought Jesus to this judgment. Yet, He was there ultimately because of our sin. He was putting away our sin by the offering of Himself.

***I. BEHOLD THE MAN***

***II. BEHOLD YOUR KING***

***III. BEHOLD THE LAMB***

***I. BEHOLD THE MAN (v. 1-5)***

A. ***“So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. Then they said, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ And they struck Him with their hands. Pilate then went out again, and said to them, ‘Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him.’” Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, ‘Behold the Man!’”*** (John 19:1–5)

There is much that John leaves out of his account of our Lord's Roman trial. He does not tell us how Pilate sought to push off the responsibility for judgment in this case to Herod, nor does he tell us how Pilate's wife had a dream about Jesus and advised him to have nothing to do with condemning this innocent man.

B. In **verse 5** Pilate brought Jesus out to the Jews again and set Him before them, bruised, bleeding, wearing a crown of thorns, and a mocking purple robe. Dressed like this, Pilate called the crowd to ***“Behold the Man.”*** What do we see when we behold Jesus, the man?

1. We see the depths of His condescension for us. Here is the mystery of the incarnation on display for us. Do not the words of **Philippians 2:5-8** ring in our hearts? We see Him there, draped in purple, crowned with thorns, broken and bleeding for us.

***“[He] made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”***

This is the Lord of glory. The One that Paul declares is equal to God the Father. He is the eternal God who has come in human flesh for us.

2. As we look a little closer we see His humiliation and shame because He was made sin for us. He wore the crown of thorns because the thorns represent the curse that we brought because of our sin. Thorns were the evidence of the curse. Our Lord Jesus stood before the crowd, on His brow He wore the very symbol of their sin and curse that He had become for us.

***“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*** (2 Corinthians 5:21)

3. What is that on his face and his body? We see bruises where the soldiers struck Him. We can see spittle where they spat upon Him. There is also a robe to mock and scorn Him. The Psalmist saw this all before and wrote:

***“All those who see Me scorn Me.”*** (Psalm 22:7)

C. Listen to the call from the crowd (**verses 6-9**).

***“Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, ‘Crucify Him, crucify Him!’ Pilate said to them, ‘You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him.’ The Jews answered him, ‘We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.’ Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the Praetorium.”***

## ***II. BEHOLD YOUR KING (v. 12-14)***

***A. “From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, ‘If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar’s friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.’ When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, ‘Behold your King.’” (John 19:12-14)***

The Lord being beaten, humiliated, and spat upon was not enough for the Jewish authorities. They had to have Him dead. They would not be satisfied with anything less. So, Pilate brings Jesus again out to the people and this time he calls us to ***“Behold your King!”***

B. Let us look at this one who is the King. He is the King who only seven days before rode into Jerusalem. He came just as Zechariah prophesied 400 years before. And they welcomed Him as king, but not in their hearts.

C. God told them He would send His Messiah to be their king. He created Israel from the beginning to be unlike any other nation. Other nations would be ruled by kings and parliaments, Israel would be ruled by God. Israel would be a theocracy. Do you remember when Israel wanted Samuel to give them a king like the other nations had? God told Samuel.

***“And the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.” (1 Samuel 8:7).***

All through her history, Israel had rejected God as her king.

D. Now we come to Israel’s final rejection. Here before them is God their king, incarnate in human flesh, but what happens when Jesus is officially presented as Israel's King?

***v.15 “Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate responds “Shall I crucify your King?”***

Notice who it is that answers.

***“The chief priests answered, ‘We have no King but Caesar!’”***

The spiritual leaders of the nation rejected God as King. Here is marked in history the greatest rejection of all the Jews rejecting their King.

### **III. BEHOLD THE LAMB**

A. Although it is not presented in this text, there is one other thing we need to see. Before we own Him as our King we need to see Him in a different way, in the way that He is spoken of earlier in this Gospel. In **John 1:29**

***“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”***

Look at Jesus there in Pilate's hall and see Him as the Man of sorrows, see Him as our King, but don't miss seeing Him as God's spotless lamb sacrificed for us. ***“The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”***

B. What will you do as you behold the Man, the King, and the Lamb? Will you open your heart to receive Him or will you cry out like the Jews of old, ***“Away with Him. We will not have this man rule over us!”***

Jesus is standing in Pilate's hall  
Friendless, forsaken, betrayed by all  
Hearken! what meaneth the sudden call?  
What will you do with Jesus?

What will you do with Jesus?  
Neutral you cannot be  
Someday your heart will be asking  
What will He do with me?

**Hymn #175 Hallelujah, What a Savior!**