

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17 and John 19:1-18

Singing: 127:1-3, 6, 8 – 170:1-2 – 184:1-3, 6, 7 – 114:1-4 – 111:1-4

*The preparations of the heart in man and the answer of the tongues,
is from the LORD. (Prov. 16:1)*

The story of Jesus as He suffered under Pontius Pilate

1. Pilate's command to scourge Jesus
2. Pilate's new attempt to release Jesus
 - a. at first, he appeared successful (compare 18:40 and 19:6)
 - b. yet there was another unexpected effect: 19:7
3. Unwittingly, Pilate's treatment again *answered his own question* (8:38)

Behold the man!

- I. Behold the truth of sin
- II. Behold the truth of justice
- III. Behold the truth of love

I. Behold the truth of sin

- A. The horrible truth of this humiliated Jesus is *meant to shock us*
 1. His sufferings under Pontius Pilate aren't only picture to see
 2. "Behold the man!" pictures *sin in its blackest shade*
 - a. behold our desperate depravity!
 - b. behold hell in full daylight!
- B. "Behold the Man" defines truth about sin!
 1. What is sin in its deepest meaning?
 - a. not just a *self-serving or self-protecting act*
 - b. sin dishonors, belittles, defiles or abuses God's glory
- C. "Behold the Man" defines what we became in our fall!
 1. We are *pretend kings with a thorny path while powerless!*
 2. Saving grace includes opening of our eyes for this reality
- D. Reflect: *Is God leading us into **truth** of self-sin knowledge?*

II. Behold the truth of justice

- A. Jesus presentation is completely framed in His innocence
 1. Many have stated that there *was no fault in Him!*

2. Yet He was *charged – judged – treated – sentenced as if guilty!*

a. none of Jesus' disciples saw *any beauty* in this

b. yet later Peter extolled this is Jesus' glory (1 Peter 2:24-25, 3:18)

3. What changed Peter's assessment?

a. Peter began to learn about Jesus *priestly work* (Luke 24:26)

b. Peter learned that *sweet times with Jesus* don't atone sin

B. "Behold the man of sorrow"

1. Was His suffering and death only a *violation of justice?*

a. *For He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteous of God in Him. (2 Cor. 5:21)*

b. *Yet is pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief.*

C. "Behold the man" is God's direction for salvation from our just curse

a. *Who His own Self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye are healed. (1 Peter 2:24)*

III. Behold the truth of love

A. *Then came Jesus forth ...* what do we see in this abused Son of man?

1. Behold, **so** *God loved the world that He gave His Son to this!*

a. He came forth out of the *Father's heart and hand*

2. Let prayer be constant *that He would grant us ...*

a. *to be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge! (Eph. 3:18)*

If any man hath ears, let him hear ...

A. Hate sin as you see its black color in the suffering Savior!

B. Doubt no longer that God's provision is sufficient to pardon you!

C. Fellow saints keep beholding the Man as He stood there for you!