

INTRODUCTION:

1. PILATE BELIEVED JESUS WAS INNOCENT AND UNDERSTOOD WHAT DROVE THE JEWS (27:15-18).

a. A convenient tradition and notable prisoner took the pressure off Pilate and opened the door for Jesus' death (27:15-16).

b. Pilate asked a question that unwittingly led to Jesus' death (27:17-18).

(1) Pilate truly believed that Jesus was innocent.

(2) Pilate accomplished five things by asking that question.

2. PILATE RECEIVED ANOTHER SIGN OF JESUS' INNOCENCE FROM HIS WIFE (27:19).

a. Pilate's wife had a troubling dream (27:19)

b. The Jewish leaders turned the minds of the people against Jesus (27:20).

c. Pilate asked three questions that sealed Jesus' crucifixion (27:21-24).

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TEXT: MATTHEW 27:11-26

3. PILATE MADE A FINAL AND FUTILE ATTEMPT TO CLEAR HIMSELF OF THE GUILT OF JESUS' DEATH (27:24-26).

a. Pilate seeing the inevitable reluctantly caved in to their demands (27:24).

b. The Jews gladly took the guilt for Jesus' death (27:25).

c. Pilate turned Jesus over to crucifixion (27:26).

4. APPLICATIONS:

(1) Knowing Jesus as carrying on the great work of our salvation in standing before Pilate and the Jews as our innocent Substitute.

(2) Meditating on Jesus in that respect.

(3) Believing on Jesus in that respect.

(4) Loving Jesus in that respect.

CONCLUSION: