

Pontius Pilate: A Study in Contrasts:Luke 23:22**Two: GUILT AND JUSTICE**

I. Jesus' _____ and Pilate's _____

A. Jesus

1. Notice the charges against Jesus

They are the most incriminating things they can say against Him:
 sedition (false) – refusal to pay taxes (false) – claim to be King
 of the Jews (half truth)

2. Pilate's sixfold declaration of His innocence

John 18:38

Lk 23:14-15

Lk 23:22

Jn 19:4

Jn 19:6

Matt 27:24

B. Pilate

1. He knows Jesus is innocent, and he is willing to stand on principle to a point, but not to risk sacrifice of his career, or possibly his life

He will not simply release Him

2. He refuses Jesus' overtures to his heart. Hardened

II. _____ justice and _____ justice

A. Pilate

Look again at Pilate's sixfold declaration of Jesus' innocence, and what Pilate did as a result:

1. **John 18:38** after cross-examination.

Why then not release Him under protection of a Roman guard?

2. **Luke 23:13-16**: innocent—therefore (!) I will punish and release

3. **Luke 23:20-22:** same thing!
4. **John 19:1-4:** flogged and abused. Then says “No basis for a charge!”
5. **John 19:5-6:** you crucify Him; I find no basis for a charge! But that is his responsibility as governor!
6. **Matt 27:15-18, 20-26:** releases Barabbas, a murderer, washes his hands of responsibility, and no longer any pretense of a trial. You take Him.

No justice; only political power and self-preservation

B. God

1. Declares Jesus innocent; fully pleased with Him: Matt 3:17; 17:5
2. But Jesus voluntarily *takes on* the sins of His people: Isaiah 53:4-6, 8, 12; II Cor 5:21

Therefore Jesus is receiving **perfect justice** in the Court of Heaven at this moment.

The two trials are going on simultaneously.

And God sovereignly uses Pilate’s injustice to accomplish His perfect justice!

Because He is just, your sin can never be condemned again:

Romans 8:31-39

And your hope is new Heaven & Earth where never any injustice again

Heb 10:19-23 the veil has been torn, for the way has been opened to God, not thru the Law, but thru Jesus’ body!

Come to Him!