

# ***“The Crying Call for Character”***

**The King & I • pt. 118**

*Mt. 27:11-26*

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## INTRODUCTION

“When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost.”

— Billy Graham

“Good character...is not given to us. We have to build it piece by piece—by thought, choice, courage and determination.”

— John Luther

“Your character is what you really are. Your reputation is only what people think about you.”

— John Wooten

## *1. Pilate's role & responsibility*

- before Caesar

- before the Jews & Jesus

+ the charges

Lk. 23:1-2

Mt. 5:41; 22:21

+ the conversation

Jn. 18:28, 33-38

## *2. Pilate's refusal to take responsibility*

- a. sent Jesus to Herod

Lk. 23:5-12

- b. pitted crowd against the religious leaders (Barabbas)

Mk. 15:7; Lk. 23:19; Jn. 18:40

- c. ignored the warning of his wife

Mt. 27:19

- d. washed his hands of the matter

Mt. 27:24; Deut. 21:6-9; cf Ps. 26:6

- e. flogged Jesus

## APPLICATION

1. Faithfulness in small things brings greater opportunity.

“The man who has no inner life is the slave of his surroundings.”

— Henri Amiel

Jn. 15:18-20

2. Teach others to *become* like Jesus (not just *look* like Him).

1 Cor. 15:58; 2 Cor. 4:1; Gal. 6:9; 2 Thess. 3:13;

Heb. 3:1; 12:2