JOHN GRACE and TRUTH

"The Condemned Messiah"

John 18:28-19:16



What does Jesus' condemnation mean for us?



- 1. (not) Pure Enough to Condemn the Messiah "...so that they would not be defiled ... We have no king but Caesar!"
- 2. (not) Powerful Enough to Condemn the Messiah "I find no guilt ... I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you"
- 3. (not) Pawn Entangled in Contemporary Matters "Behold the man! ... Behold your King!"



1. (not) Pure Enough to Condemn the Messiah

"...so that they would not be defiled ... We have no king but Caesar!"



Priestly (Jewish/Religious) Leaders

- 1) Pretending to be Preparing for Passover Observance, (28) while rejecting the true Passover Lamb
- 2) Pretending to be Pure and devout religious followers, (29) while Partnering with Pilate against the Messiah
- 3) Pretending to Practice Roman Precepts, (31) while manipulating Pilate to do their dirty work



Priestly (Jewish/Religious) Leaders

- 4) Pretending to be Politically against Insurrection, (40) while preferring the release of actual Insurrectionist
- 5) Pretending to be Protecting God from blasphemy, (7) while aiming eliminate the revelation of God
- 6 Pretending to be Priestly Leaders loyal to God alone, (15) while proclaiming "no King but Caesar"



"... all our righteous deeds are as filthy rags"

- Isaiah 64:6

God doesn't want our "pure-enough-to-not-need-Jesus" lies

"... a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise"

- Psalm 51:17

God does want our "desperation-for-Jesus-in-our-place" truth



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Pilate (Roman/Civil/Political) Leader

- 1) Positioning himself as the Powerful One for appeal, (31) but actually fulfilling another's plan
- Positioning himself as Capable Prosecutor, (35)
 but actually cares nothing for truth
- 3) Positioning himself as Powerful to Punish, (1) but actually insufficient



Pilate (Roman/Civil/Political) Leader

- 4) Positioning himself as Pronouncer of Life/Death, (10) but actually dependent on others
- 5) Pretending himself as Powerful Political Ally, (12) but actually afraid of accusation/losing position
- 6) Pretending himself as Powerful Judge, (16) but actually never recognizes the Judge of All



"... Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed ..."

- Psalm 2:1-2

"... Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you..."

- 1 Peter 5:5-6



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Kingdom Not of this World

Behold the Man

Behold Your King

JOHN

"...this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it..."

- Acts 2:23-24

"... truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place."

- Acts 4:27-28



"...with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."

- 1 Peter 1:19

"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

- Philippians 2:9-11

JOHN

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned-- every one-- to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

- Isaiah 53:4-6



What does Jesus' condemnation mean for us?

"For our sake, he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." - 2 Corinthians 5:21