

The Lost Struggle of Pilate

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 27.
- B. Many people came on the scene and tragically left during Jesus' trial.
- C. Jesus had several trials before Jews and Gentiles.
- D. The trial before Pilate was the civil trial.
- E. Pilate ruled over Judah, so he sent Jesus to Galilee when he heard He was from Galilee hoping to get rid of the problem.
- F. The Jews knew that the accusation of blasphemy would never stand civilly, so they brought charges against Jesus as king.
- G. Pilate was procurator responsible to the emperor. He was the Jewish administrator. He held the Jews in contempt nearly causing a riot for his sacrilege at one point.

II. Pilate before the Lord.

III. Pilate before the mob.

- A. Pilate offered freedom for either Barabbus or Jesus. He thought that the mob would look at Jesus as innocent and Barabbus as a terrible criminal and release Jesus. He was wrong.
- B. Pilate's wife warned him to leave Jesus alone.

IV. Pilate before himself.

- A. Pilate washed his hands of the death of Jesus when the crowd asked Jesus to be crucified.
- B. There was no way that Pilate could wash the guilt of Jesus' blood from his hands.
- C. The guilt of the blood of Jesus fell on the contemporary generation of Israel. (I Corinthians 1-2)

V. Application.

- A. There are consequences for a failed conscience.
- B. One cannot rid himself of responsibility.
- C. One judges himself by what he judges.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to a person who claims that they have no responsibility for things as long as he does not get involved in anything?

2. How is the church today failing in conscience?

3. Which areas do you need to take more responsibility? Explain.
