

What Will You Do with Jesus?

(Matthew 27:22)

- Introduction:
1. Pontius Pilate was the fifth Roman Procurator who ruled over Judea from 26 to 36 A.D.
 2. As we know, Pilate was the man who had to make a decision about the fate of Jesus.
 3. This lesson will examine Pilate's fateful decision as well as our own.

I. What Pilate Did with Jesus

- A. (Matthew 27:1-26),
- B. Following the Jewish trial of Jesus, the chief priests brought Jesus to Pilate.
- C. Pilate found no fault in him and passed him off to Herod (Luke 23:6-7).
- D. Herod mocked Jesus and returned him to Pilate (Luke 23:11-12).
- E. Pilate's wife warned him to have nothing to do with Jesus (Matthew 27:19).
- F. Pilate wanted to set Jesus free and offered a prisoner release (Luke 23:22-25).
- G. He ended up asking the question, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called the Christ?" (Matthew 27:22).
- H. Pilate symbolically washed his hands and sent Jesus away to be crucified (Matthew 27:24-26).

II. What Will We Do with Jesus?

- A. Some will deny him.
 1. (Isaiah 53:3).
 2. (John 1:11).
 3. (Mark 10:17-22).
- B. Some will delay him.
 1. (Acts 25:6).
 2. There is no "better" time than now. Christianity is not convenient (Matthew 16:24).
- C. Some will attempt to deceive him.
 1. Some think they can obligate and manipulate God with minimal service.
 2. (Luke 17:5-10).
 3. (Revelation 3:15-16).
 4. (Matthew 7:21-23).
- D. Some will devote themselves to him.
 1. (Matthew 28:19-20).
 2. (Galatians 2:20).

- Conclusion:
1. I have pity upon the soul of Pilate as I consider him standing before the Jesus in judgment.
 2. But he will be no more pitiable than many of the people living today, maybe even some hearing me this morning.
 3. What will you do with Jesus, who is called the Christ?