



“Taking Responsibility”

Sunday, November 26, 2023 | Text: Matthew 27:11-26

1. The responsibility of Pontius Pilate (vs 11-14).

[11] Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” [12] But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. [13] Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” [14] But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

2. The responsibility of the religious leaders (vs. 15-19).

[15] Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. [16] And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. [17] So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” [18] For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. [19] Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.”

3. The responsibility of the crowd (vs. 20-26).

[20] Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. [21] The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” [22] Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” [23] And he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

[24] So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” [25] And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” [26] Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Who is responsible for the death of the Lord Jesus?

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Discussion Questions: How was Pilate responsible for Jesus’ death? How were the religious leaders responsible for Jesus’ death? How was the crowd responsible for Jesus’ death? How are you responsible for Jesus’ death? Who is ultimately responsible for Jesus’ death (see Isaiah 53:3-10)? How is Barabbas an illustration of us all? How does this truth affect you? How does this passage lead you to treasure Christ? How does this passage lead you worship God?

Next Sunday’s Sermon: Matthew 27:11-26

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