

Notes From Karl Dietz
For February 2, 2014

Good afternoon:

I look forward to studying God's Word with you tomorrow. Below are the lesson notes for tomorrow's discussion in John 18-19. In addition, I have included an article that first appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) on March 21, 1986 entitled: "On the Physical Death of Jesus Christ". I will refer to this article, but I thought you might enjoy reading the entire article.

Blessings!

Karl

February 2, 2014

"Our King: Condemned!" John 18:28-19:16

Lesson Question: How do I show that Jesus is my King?

Biblical Truth: Although charged and condemned to die as a political King, in truth Jesus is the Eternal King with divine authority.

Discussion and Background:

* How did we leave last week's lesson? Luke 22:61-61 (ESV) "And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly."

* What do you think was going through Jesus' mind at this time?

* Was Jesus in control of these events?

* Do you think he was suffering physically? Emotionally?

* In the JAMA 3/21/86, an article was published "On the Physical Death of Jesus Christ" by William Edwards, MD; Wesley Gabel, MDiv; and Floyd Hosmer, MS, AMI. Both Dr. Edwards, and Mr. Hosmer were with the Mayo Clinic, and Dr. Edwards, was in the Department of Pathology. Their source material was extensive using both the Bible, Jewish, and Roman authors. Excerpts will be shared in today's lesson. The full article has been provided along with these notes.

* Our lesson opens with the Pharisees leading Jesus from the Sanhedrin to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate. Let's read John 18:28-32

* The Jews had condemned Jesus of blasphemy, but they represent to Pilate that he was guilty of ...sedition... why did they give this as the reason for Jesus' crime? (They wanted to make sure Jesus was eliminated. If they said that Jesus was guilty of blasphemy, they took the risk that Pilate might not agree with them, and let Jesus go.)

* What was the significance of this crime? (if the crime was blasphemy, he would have been "thrown down" and stoned, like the martyr Stephen. In this case, the punishment for sedition was that he would "be lifted up" and crucified.)

* As we discussed last week, was Jesus still in control?

"Unlike Any Worldly King" John 18:33-38

* How did Pilate react to the charge made by the Jews? Do you think he really believed the charge?

* Do you think Pilate's interrogation went like he planned? (No, Jesus was in control, was very articulate and provided detail.)

* What do we learn about Jesus' Kingdom? (It is not of this world; He came into this world to bear witness to the truth of Jehovah God; Everyone who is of the truth hears Jesus voice)

* What was Pilate's "takeaway" from this interrogation?

* How does the biblical concept of truth differ from the world's concept of truth?

"Rejected as King by Some" John 18: 38-40

* When Pilate emerged from the interrogation, he simply said what? (Jesus is not guilty) Did this satisfy the Jews?

* What was the irony of wanting Barabbas released over Jesus? (Barabbas was a well-known thief, murderer, and revolutionary)

* Why did the Priests and leading Jews reject Jesus?

* Why do people still reject Jesus today?

* Warren Wiersbe (Expository Outlines, 1992 Victor Books; pg 262) "The world makes the wrong choice when it comes to spiritual matters. The mob preferred a murderer to the Prince of

Life! They chose the lawbreaker, not the Lawgiver! The Jews rejected their true Messiah, but they one day will accept Satan's false Messiah, the Antichrist (John 5:43)."

"Mistreated As King By Others" John 19:1-3

- * Why did Pilate have Jesus flogged and then turned over to the soldiers? (It showed how he was weak and depraved. It was well known that he despised the Jews, yet he was still afraid of them. If a riot broke out, this could get back to Rome, and it could cost him.)
- * What is the significance of the "crown of thorns"? (Our lesson writer states that thorns became a symbol of the curse of creation and reminder of the penalty of sin.)
- * This beating of Jesus fulfilled the prophesy in Isaiah 53:5 "But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed."NKJV
- * Today, is there growing resentment and hostility toward Christ and Christians? Why?

"Divine Authority As King" John 19:8-11

- * Was Jesus still in control? How did he respond to Pilate?
- * In Matthew Henry's Commentary (Zondervan 1961; pg 1619) "Christ boldly rebukes Pilate's arrogance. Though Christ did not think fit to answer him when he was impertinent, yet he did think fit to answer him when he was imperious. When Pilate used his power, Christ silently submitted to it; but, when he grew proud of it, he made him know himself. His power in general, as a magistrate, was a limited power, and he could do no more than God would suffer him to do...But Christ lets him know that he was herein but an instrument in God's hand."
- * How can Jesus response during this entire trauma encourage us when we face persecution?

Truths:

- * Jesus is in control; he has always been in control.
- * We will suffer persecution like Jesus, but when that time comes, we don't have to worry about what to say or do. Matt. 10: 19-20 "But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you." NKJV
- * Always remember the encouragement of our Lord, Jesus. John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." NKJV