

# GROWTH + GROUPS

NAVIGATE LIFE TOGETHER

Maranatha Chapel Sermon Based Study Guide  
SB 08.13.2023

BEHOLD HIM– John 19:1-16

## Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study

What insights, principles or observations stood out to you from this week’s message? Discuss with your group.

Pastor Daniel tells us “There’s an old saying by William Arthur Ward that goes like this; ‘Whatever gets your attention gets your time. Whatever gets your time gets you. Whatever gets you becomes your master.’ There’s a lot of truth to that statement. Whatever gets your attention will ultimately get you! This is something advertisers know all too well. That’s why they work so hard to capture your attention. They know if they can get your eyes, then they can get your wallet! That’s why they spend so much money on advertisements. Why am I telling you all of this? Because in our text today, Pontius Pilate is going to invite us to give all our attention to Jesus. There aren’t many areas that I would encourage you to listen to Pilate in, but this is one instance where I think you should.” Let’s look at Jesus.

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

1. What struck you most from Pastor Daniel’s sermon?

## Digging Deeper in God’s Word: Life Lessons

### HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ JOHN 19:1-5

Pilate is now faced with a problem. He knows that the TRUTH is that Jesus is innocent and that this trial is a sham. While He feebly tries to get Jesus released, the crowds and their lies are a powerful force to overcome. It can be hard to stand for truth when you get laughed at and mocked.

1. What did Pilate and the soldiers do? 19:2,3 (Read Matthew 27:26-31 for a more detailed account.) (Compare the prophetic words in Isaiah 50:6)
2. What do you think Pilate hoped to convey by his words “Behold the man?” 19:5 (What condition would Jesus have been in at this point?)
3. Have you ever had a situation where you had to choose between the TRUTH and what is right when the crowd was pressuring you to do the opposite? \*

**“SCOURGING”** “The Romans used a whip made of several strips of leather into which were embedded (near the ends) pieces of bone and lead. The Jews limited the number of stripes to a maximum of 40 (in practice to 39 in case of a miscount), but no such limitation was recognized by the Romans, and victims of Roman floggings often did not survive.”

### HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ JOHN 19:6-11

1. How did the chief priests and officers react to seeing Him? 19:6
2. What verdicts did Pilate pronounce? (see 18:38, 19:4, 19:6)

## *“PROMISES” in 2023*

3. How did Pilate react to the Jews’ next charge (19:7)? 19:8,9 (What do you think Pilate was wondering about by asking Jesus “Where are You from?”) (Read Matthew 27:19 and discuss what else were Pilates fears?)
4. Why do you think Jesus didn’t answer Pilate’s question in 19:9? (Compare the answer He gave to Caiaphas, sometime earlier during this trial. Matthew 26:63,64)
5. What claim to power did Pilate make in 19:10? (How did Jesus correct Him? 19:11a)

**Pilate’s guilt was limited. He was presiding over the unjust trial of an innocent man. However, as an official of the ruling power, he had been forced into this position. Moreover, he himself had not set out to arrest Jesus. Jesus had been brought to him by a person – the singular is used here – meaning either Judas Iscariot or Caiaphas, who had delivered Jesus to Pilate. If Jesus was referring to Judas, he was thinking of the fact that for three years Judas Iscariot had heard Jesus’ teaching and experienced His great love, but he had repaid Jesus’ goodness by betraying Him. If He was referring to Caiaphas, His point was that Caiaphas, as a Jew and the high priest, should have known better than Pilate. The Scriptures of which Caiaphas was the custodian condemned the injustice and untruthfulness that had characterized Jesus’ trial.”**

### **HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ JOHN 19:12-16**

1. What effect did Jesus’ answer have on Pilate? 19:12a (How did the Jews’ final threat (19:12b) affect Pilate? 19:13-16)
2. In the following, underline what swayed Pilate.
  - Matt 27:23-24 "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" 24 When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"
  - Mark 15:15 Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged and handed him over to be crucified. NIV
3. What do you think Pilate hoped to convey by his words “Behold, your King?” 19:14 (Cf. 19:5)
4. What irony do you see in the reply “We have no king but Caesar.” 19:15 (Who was stirring up the crowds? (Mark 15:11)
5. All four gospels relate many specific details about the investigations and trials of Jesus. Why was it important that the details of Jesus’ trials be preserved? (1 Peter 1:18-19)

### **Applying God’s Word**

**What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss with your group.**

## ***“PROMISES” in 2023***

**In His first coming, Jesus came as a Lamb, but when He returns, He is coming back as a Lion. In His first coming, He rode on a lowly donkey. But when He returns, He is coming back on a horse! In His first coming, almost everyone missed it. The only people there to welcome His arrival were Mary and Joseph and a few shepherds. But when He returns, ‘every eye will see Him.’ In His first coming, He was rejected, but when He returns, every knee will bow before Him.**

1. How can we apply the lessons from this passage to our daily lives?
2. How can we stand firm in our convictions when faced with pressure to compromise?
3. How can we better recognize and resist societal pressures that lead us away from God's truth?

**PRAYER** – Praise God for His reconciling work through Christ that brought you to Him at the right time when you were hostile and helpless. Pray that the people in your group would understand their need for a Savior and trust fully in Christ because of the price He paid for them. This week as you “Behold Him” remember He is the great I AM, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. JESUS ALONE IS WORTHY OF ALL OF OUR PRAISE! Let’s praise Him.

**‘Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of Him. Even so. Amen.’ {Revelation 1:7}**