

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

March 2016

John: Jesus is the Christ

Lesson #22: Jesus Crucified

INTRODUCTION

- Describe a time you or someone you know was punished unjustly. What was the outcome?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read John 19:1-16a

1. Why did Pilate have Jesus scourged (flogged)? v.1
2. How did this tactic of having Jesus scourged backfire on Pilate?
3. What was the claim of Jesus that the Jews violently rejected? v.7
4. What was Pilate afraid of? v.8
5. If Pilate could release Jesus and thought He was innocent, why did he have Jesus crucified? v.11

Read John 19:16b-37

Note: Jesus was on the cross from 9am to 3pm. It is finished (v.30) is the same Greek word as accomplished. Some medical authorities say that the flow of blood and water (v.34) comes from a ruptured heart.

6. Why did John give such a brief description of the crucifixion?
7. Did Jesus die or give up his spirit? V. 30, 33 What difference does it make? v.36
8. What is the significance of blood and water coming out of the wound? v.34, Psalm 69:20
9. Why does John emphasize all the fulfilled prophecies? v. 36
10. Some have said that the value of Christ's death is based on who He is. What difference does it make if he was a) criminal who deserved to die, b) an innocent man who died as a miscarriage of justice or c) God (as he claimed to be)?

APPLICATION

- Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent but feared man more than God. Daniel refused to follow man's law (Dan 6:7) and paid the consequences. He obviously feared God more than man. We all want to say that we are more like Daniel than Pilate. How do we get there?

If Jesus was who He claimed to be, then the witnesses must agree. One was God. Not only prophecy but in the New Testament at Jesus' baptism and transfiguration. Another witness was Jesus as He said on numerous occasions that He and the Father were one (John 8:58). Another witness is the Holy Spirit. Jesus referred to Him in John 15:26. The angels witnessed about Jesus at his birth and death. The demons that Jesus cast out acknowledged who Jesus was ((Matt 8:29). Humans witnessed who Jesus was throughout his ministry as described by the gospel writers (Matt 1:23). The soldiers (Matt 27:54) and thief (Luke 23:39-42) acknowledged who He was. Based on the evidence, what is your verdict?

Sermon by Donald Grey Barnhouse, 1962