

Is Your King Serenity?

“Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate came out to them and asked, ‘What charges are you bringing against this man?’ ³⁰‘If He were not a criminal,’ they replied, ‘we would not have handed Him over to you.’”

³¹*Pilate said, ‘Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law.’”*

“But we have no right to execute anyone,” the Jews objected. ³²This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death He was going to die would be fulfilled. ³³Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked Him, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’ ³⁴‘Is that your own idea,’ Jesus asked, ‘or did others talk to you about me?’ ³⁵‘Am I a Jew?’ Pilate replied. ‘It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?’ ³⁶Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.’ ³⁷‘You are a king, then!’ said Pilate. Jesus answered, ‘You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.’”

³⁸*“What is truth?” Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, ‘I find no basis for a charge against Him. ³⁹But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?’”*

⁴⁰*They shouted back, ‘No, not Him! Give us Barabbas!’”*

Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.”

- John 18:28-40

In this Series, We Are Learning That...

1. Everyone has an ultimate king that they serve, and this king controls their thoughts and actions.
2. Many people who would call Jesus “Saviour” do not understand that He must also be king.

Some Background

The Palace — Part of Antonio Fortress

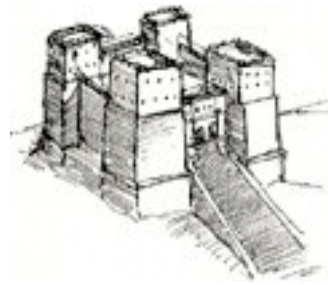
“The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers.”

- Mark 15:16

The Passover — Would begin that evening!

Pilate — (Where is he in history books?)

- His problems — Three major conflicts. He was on probation.
- His end — Returned to Rome and many suggest suicide.
- His legacy — The Apostle’s Creed.



If Serenity (Peace) Is Your King...

1. You will yield to the wishes of others even if they aren’t realistic.

“So Pilate came out to them and asked, ‘What charges are you bringing against this man?’”

- John 18:29

2. You will not stand up for what is right.

“If He were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed Him over to you.”

- John 18:30

3. You will be willing to change the rules to appease people.

“Pilate said, ‘Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law.’” “But we have no right to execute anyone,” the Jews objected. ³²This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death He was going to die would be fulfilled.”

- John 18:31,32

4. You will take shortcuts to solve your problems.

“Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked Him, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’”

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5. You will struggle to know truth, and when you do find it, you will fail to stand on the foundation of truth. (*Confusion*)

³⁷*“Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” ³⁸“What is truth?” Pilate asked.”*

- John 18:37,38

6. You will search for easy answers and compromises to make everybody happy (and it will not work).

“But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?”

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7. You will live in fear.

“The Jews insisted, ‘We have a law, and according to that law He must die, because He claimed to be the Son of God.’ ⁸When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid...”

- John 19:7,8

8. You will make bad decisions and regret them.

“I find no basis for a charge against Him.”

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“...I find no basis for a charge against Him.”

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“Do you refuse to speak to me?” Pilate said. “Don’t you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?”

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9. You will blame others for your lack of courage.

“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!”

- Matthew 27:24

But If Christ Is Your King...

1. You are serving the true King.

“In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession... ¹⁵— God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To Him be honour and might forever. Amen.”

- 1 Timothy 6:13,15-16

2. You are serving a king who is eternal.

“You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world...”

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3. You will know the truth and be free.

“In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

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“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

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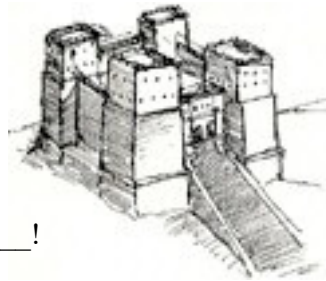
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