

**Text:** John 19:14-30

**Meaning:** King Jesus was crucified for the sins of mankind

**Big Idea:** Salvation is received by submission to Jesus as King

**Objective:** I want the hearers to submit to Christ as King

**Theme:** Responses to the King

## **BRAVEHEART ILLUSTRATION**

### **READ JOHN 19:14-30**

#### **DAY OF PREPARATION**

The day stated here is the Day of Preparation, the day before Passover. That day has been hauntingly mentioned throughout the entire Gospel in a dirgelike repetition of the day of Jesus' glorification. That day was the day when the Lamb of God would be sacrificed for the ultimate Passover. That day was the same day when the people of Israel slaughtered their lambs in preparation for their celebration of Passover. The symbolism is so powerful that it is almost overwhelming in its implications...The designation the "sixth" hour was absolutely crucial for John because this was the time on the Day of Preparation when the Jews began their preparations for Passover in earnest. Any leaven in the house had to be collected and burned; labor stopped at this time, and the major task of slaughtering the lambs in preparation for the Passover meal began. This would be an appropriate general time designation for the sentencing of the Passover Lamb in keeping with the way John has presented his major theme of the Lamb of God and Passover throughout his Gospel (cf. 1:29; etc.).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Gerald L. Borchert, [John 12-21](#), vol. 25B, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2002), 258-259.

*SO, AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN BOTH THE TEMPLE PRIESTS AND THE PEOPLE WERE SACRIFICING LAMBS FOR THE PASSOVER, THE LAMB OF GOD WAS SLAIN FOR US, THUS USHERING IN A NEW EXODUS, AN ETERNAL DELIVERANCE FROM SLAVERY TO SIN.*

#### **By the way – DON'T MISS THE HISTORICAL, THEOLOGICAL, AND PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS.**

You cannot dispute the connection between the atoning work of Christ and the atoning sacrifices being made of the lambs in Jerusalem. It is nothing short of miraculous that all this happened when it did.

Ladies and Gentlemen – you have to utterly ignore or excuse away all the preponderance of evidence that Christ is the Messiah to not believe in Him.

#### **Atheist Buys Groceries**

A Christian lady who lived next door to an atheist There was a Christian lady who lived next door to an atheist. Every day, when the lady prayed, the atheist guy could hear her. He thought to himself, "She sure is crazy, praying all the time like that. Doesn't she know there isn't a God?" Many times while she was praying, he would go to her house and harass her, saying "Lady, why do you pray all the time? Don't you know there is no God?" But she kept on praying. One day, she ran out of groceries. As usual, she was praying to the Lord explaining her situation and thanking Him for what He was gonna do. As usual, the atheist heard her praying and thought to himself, "Humph! I'll fix her." He went to the grocery store, bought a whole bunch of groceries, took them to her house, dropped them off on the front porch, rang the door bell and then hid in the bushes to

see what she would do. When she opened the door and saw the groceries, she began to praise the Lord with all her heart, jumping, singing and shouting everywhere! The atheist then jumped out of the bushes and told her, "You ol' crazy lady, God didn't buy you those groceries, I bought those groceries!" At hearing this, she broke out and started running down the street, shouting and praising the Lord. When he finally caught her, he asked what her problem was. She said, "I knew the Lord would provide me with some groceries, but I didn't know he was gonna make the devil pay for them!"

<http://www.jokes4us.com/religiousjokes/atheistjokes.html>

Today – the PROOF IS IN THE CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION! Christ on the cross is the greatest display of love in the history of mankind! He offers you today the free gift of eternal life. All you have to do is SUBMIT TO HIM AS KING OF YOUR HEART TODAY!

IN THIS PASSAGE WE SEE 4 DIFFERENT RESPONSES TO CHRIST AS KING, AND ONLY ONE OF THEM IS THE RIGHT RESPONSE.

### **1. REBELLION – THE CHIEF PRIESTS (v.15, 21)**

In this present text the religious leaders, who were charged with the responsibility of representing God, actually committed the ultimate hypocrisy by responding to Pilate with the blasphemous words “we have no king but Caesar.” In doing so they verbally removed God from any role in the kingship of Israel. Perhaps some Jews were tired of the messianic pretenders arising in their midst who claimed to be the “new David,” but to eliminate God from ultimate kingship was astonishing.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Gerald L. Borchert, [John 12–21](#), vol. 25B, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2002), 259.

You can be both religious and rebellious toward God at the same time! Out of one side of your mouth you can claim to be a follower of Christ, then out of the other side of the same mouth speak blasphemous words and live a blasphemous life.

### **Matthew 7:21-23**

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>22</sup> On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of LAWLESSNESS.'

**Salvation is KNOWING JESUS, not simply knowing about Him. And to KNOW JESUS is to SUBMIT TO JESUS AS KING OF YOUR LIFE.**

### **Payton Manning Illustration**

We use the word KNOW in multiple different ways. For example, I am a Tennessee football fan. Pray for me. If you ask me if I know Payton Manning, I would say yes. The son of the great Archie Manning, played football at Tennessee from 1994-1997, had an incredible career there and then played 18 seasons in the NFL, 14 for the Colts and 4 for the Broncos. He won 5 MVP awards and 2 super bowl and is 3<sup>rd</sup> all-time in passing yards and passing touchdowns. I know Payton Manning.

But if you ask me have I ever met Payton Manning, that's a different story. No, I have not. The knowledge Jesus talks about is personal first-hand knowledge. He is talking not merely about someone who

has met Him, but someone who talks with Him and spends time with Him every day.

To live for the things of this world instead of submitting to Christ and living to give Him glory is OUTRIGHT REBELLION.

## **2. EXPEDIENCY – PILATE (v.16, 22)**

**Expediency** - the quality of being convenient and practical despite possibly being [improper](#) or [immoral](#); convenience.

Words like popularity, acceptance, tolerance, and compromise go alongside this. That was Pontius Pilate.

Pilate was an astute politician. He was a supreme pragmatist and opportunist. One on hand He recognized Christ was sinless and even had a sense of fear toward Him. If you remember Scripture tells us in Matthew 27 that Pilate's wife sent Him a message as Jesus was on trial saying she had a dream that day which communicated to her that Jesus was a righteous man and her husband should have nothing to do with Him.

On one hand Pilate was on Jesus's side, but on the other hand He wanted to appease the crowd and didn't want to do anything that might affect his opportunity to rise in the political ranks. Right before this it says He sought to release Jesus but the Jewish leaders cried, "anyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar, so Pilate if you release Him you are not a friend of Caesar."

The phrase "a friend of Caesar" was more than a casual allusion to Roman patriotism. It usually denoted a supporter or associate of the emperor, a member of the important inner circle.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Kenneth O. Gangel, *John*, vol. 4, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 348.

So for Pilate to release Jesus would have pit him against Caesar and he couldn't afford to lose his influential standing.

PILATE WANTED CHRIST AND THE CROWD, AND WHATEVER WOULD BEST BENEFIT HIM IN THE MOMENT HE WENT WITH.

## **JESUS SAID – HE WHO IS NOT WITH ME IS AGAINST ME!**

YOU CAN'T HAVE YOUR IDENTITY IN MONEY, OR POSSESSIONS, OR POPULARITY, OR PLEASURE, OR LEISURE, OR SPORTS, OR HOBBIES, OR EDUCATION, OR YOUR VOCATION, OR ANY OTHER EARTHLY THING AND BE A FOLLOWER OF JESUS AT THE SAME TIME.

BURGER KING – Following Jesus is not like Burger King. You can't have it your way! It's about THE KING – He gets to have it HIS WAY!

## **Luke 16:13**

*No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.*

Jesus doesn't fit our narrative or follow our prerogative.

Jesus doesn't acquiesce to our motivation or aspirations.

HE IS KING! His plan is the only plan to be followed. His will is the only will to be obeyed.

**TOTAL SURRENDER TO CHRIST AND HIS WILL FOR MY LIFE!**

Beloved, we must be careful not to mistake apathy, complacency, and our own creature comforts for the peace and blessing of God!

### **3. MOCKERY – SOLDIERS (v. 23-24)**

In verse 18 we read those terrifying words, “there they crucified Him.” There on Golgotha’s hill a band of 4 Roman soldiers took Jesus’s hands and drove spikes into his wrists. Then they put one foot no top of another and drove another spike through both feet into that old rugged cross. Then they hoisted that cross into place, and there suspended between Heaven and earth hung our Savior. As he hung there taking his last breaths the soldiers had the audacity to mock Him and cast lots for his clothing. The ironic thing is they were mocking Him, but in Psalm 22 we see where they were merely pawns in God’s eternal plan of redemption because they were directly fulfilling prophecy. In fact there were more than 20 direct fulfillments of prophecy just on that Good Friday alone.

The world loves to mock Christians.

**Evolutionary Scientists – it is utterly ridiculous to say we have a Creator. Unintelligent. Illogical. Non-sensical even.**

Paul said God uses the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. Romans 1 says that God’s invisible attributes, his divine nature and eternal power are clearly seen through what has been made so that man is without excuse.

**Others say Christianity is weak – Faith is a Krutch**

These soldiers mock Jesus for his inability to take himself off that cross. He had performed all these miracles, yet He can’t even save himself. They had no idea about the sacrifice needed to atone for the sins of mankind. Nor did they understand that the most powerful force in the world is LOVE – and that GOD IS LOVE!

Meekness is not weakness, it is the supreme sign of strength. Sacrifice is the greatest picture of strength there is.

### **Galatians 6:7-8**

*<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup> For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.*

### **Author illustrations – JOHN MACARTHUR**

Ernest Hemingway became famous for snubbing his nose at morality and at God, declaring that his own life proved a person could do anything he wanted without paying the consequences. Like many others before and after him, he considered the ideas of the Bible to be antiquated and outdated, completely useless to modern man and a hindrance to his pleasure and self-fulfillment. Moral laws were to him a religious superstition that had no relevance. But, instead of proving the impunity of infidelity, the end of Hemingway’s life proved the folly of mocking God. His debauched life led him into such complete despair and hopelessness that he put a bullet in his head.

Other famous authors, such as Sinclair Lewis and Oscar Wilde, who openly attacked the divine moral standard and thumbed their noses at God, mocking His Word and His law, were nonetheless subject to that law. Lewis died a pathetic alcoholic in a third-rate clinic in Italy, and Wilde ended up an imprisoned homosexual, in shame and disgrace. Near the end of his life he wrote, “forgot somewhere along the line that what you are in secret you will some day cry aloud from the housetop.”

### **4. LOYALTY – THE WOMEN AND JOHN (v. 25-27)**

In the face of false religion, possible persecution, and outright mockery, these godly women and the Apostle John stood with their King as He hung upon that cross. They were willing to endure the

scorn of Religion, the suffering of persecution, and the shame of the world all for Christ.

What about you? WILL YOU STAND WITH THE KING IN THE FACE OF FALSE RELIGION? WILL YOU STAND WITH HIM IF PERSECUTION MAY RESULT? WILL YOU STAND WITH HIM EVEN WHEN THE WORLD CALLS YOU A FOOL?

### **John Kenneth Galbraith illustration**

John Kenneth Galbraith was a noted economist in the early 1900s who was called upon by many dignitaries to help sort the economic markets. He wrote the following story in his autobiography about his housekeeper:

"It had been a wearying day, and I asked Emily to hold all telephone calls while I had a nap. Shortly thereafter the phone rang. Lyndon Johnson was calling from the White House. 'Get me Ken Galbraith. This is Lyndon Johnson.' 'He is sleeping, Mr. President. He said not to disturb him.' 'Well, wake him up. I want to talk to him.' 'No, Mr. President. I work for him, not you.' When I called the President back, he could scarcely control his pleasure. 'Tell that woman I want her here in the White House.'"

Emily the housekeeper understood an important truth—she was a servant to one man and obeyed his wishes explicitly. Her loyalties were to Mr. Galbraith alone. What a great example of a true servant.