

## CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

The Gospel of John: The Deity and Teaching of Jesus Christ

### ***"The King on Trial Before the World"***

John 18:28-33 NKJV

Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. [29] Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" [30] They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." [31] Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," [32] that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die. [33] Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

#### Main Points

- 1. Religious Hypocrisy Rejects the Innocent Christ** *The religious leaders outwardly pursue ceremonial purity while inwardly plotting the death of the sinless Son of God.*
- 2. God's Sovereign Plan Moves Christ Toward the Cross** *Though sinful men act in hatred and injustice; every event unfolds according to Jesus' prophetic words and the Father's redemptive plan.*
- 3. The True King Stands Before Earthly Power** *Pilate questions Jesus about His kingship, not realizing he stands before the eternal King whose kingdom is not of this world.*

**Instruction** (2 Tim 3:16): What is God telling me?

**Inspiration** (Romans 8:16): How is the Holy Spirit moving me?

**Imitator of Christ** (Ephesians 5:1): How will I serve God by imitating Jesus?

**My prayer this week:** *Father, open our eyes to see Jesus as He truly is—the innocent King who willingly went to the cross for sinners. Guard us from empty religion and lead us to genuine faith, repentance, and obedience to Your truth through the mighty name of Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Discussion Questions:**

1. The leaders refused to enter the Praetorium to "avoid defilement" while plotting to kill Jesus. What does this reveal about the danger of caring more about outward appearance than inward obedience?

How do Christians today risk doing the same thing — protecting image while ignoring heart issues?

2. How can spiritually blind but outwardly religious people negatively affect the church, and what are some real-life examples?
3. What is the difference between being spiritually blind and being spiritually disobedient, and how does God deal with each one?
4. Pilate misunderstood Jesus, and the religious leaders rejected Him. Where does your understanding of Jesus come from, and does your life reflect the Jesus that Scripture reveals?

**Bible Reference NKJV**

**1 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV** [7] Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

**1 Peter 2:21-22 NKJV** For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: [22] "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth";

**John 15:25 NKJV** But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, 'They hated Me without a cause.'

**Isaiah 5:20 NKJV** Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

**Psalms 109:2 NKJV** For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful Have opened against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue.

**John 3:14 NKJV** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

**Acts 2:23 NKJV** Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

**2 Samuel 7:12-13 NKJV** "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. [13] He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

**Zechariah 9:9 NKJV** "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

**Revelation 19:16 NKJV** And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.