CHRIST'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

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

"The King on Trial Before the World-Part 2"

John 18:34-40 NKJV

[34] Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" [35] Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" [36] Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." [37] Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." [38] Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. [39] "But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" [40] Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

Main Points

1. *The Question of Kingship: Who Is Jesus to You?* (34–35)
   It is possible to ask questions about Jesus without surrendering to Jesus.
2. *The Nature of His Kingdom: Truth, Not Worldly Power* (36–38)
   Jesus is not a threat to Rome because He came to conquer something greater than Rome—sin, death, and the kingdom of darkness.
3. *The Exchange of the Guilty and the Innocent: Barabbas Instead of Jesus* (39–40)
   Barabbas walks free because Jesus is condemned—and that is the gospel picture of sinners saved by grace.

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: Heavenly Father, Your only begotten Son Jesus Christ is the true King and the Truth made flesh. Open our hearts to Your Word, expose what needs to be surrendered, and lead us to trust You fully. May we not stand with Pilate or the crowd, but bow before You in truth always. Help us to live this in the power of the Holy Spirit that indwells us. We ask in the precious and powerful name of our Savior and King Jesus Christ, AMEN!

Discussion Questions:

1. When Pilate asks Jesus, “Are You the King of the Jews?” Why does Jesus question Pilate’s reason for asking? How is Pilate much like people today who ask about Jesus?

2. When Jesus says, “My kingdom is not of this world,” what is He teaching us about the kind of King He is? How does this reshape the way we think about power, success, and victory?

3. Pilate stands in front of Jesus—the Truth—and still asks, “What is truth?” What does this reveal about a heart that is unwilling to trust or surrender to Jesus?

4. What does the crowd’s choice of Barabbas over Jesus reveal about the human heart, and how does this moment point us to the gospel and the Doctrine of “Substitutionary Atonement”—where the innocent takes the place of the guilty?”

Bible Reference NKJV

Matthew 16:13-16 NKJV When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" [14] So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." [15] He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" [16] Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
John 8:31-32 NKJV Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. [32] And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
Isaiah 53:3 NKJV He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
John 1:11 NKJV [11] He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.
Luke 17:20-21 NKJV Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; [21] nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you
Philippians 3:20 NKJV For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ
John 16:28 NKJV I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.”
John 1:1,14 NKJV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
John 14:6 NKJV Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 10:27 NKJV My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.
John 8:45-47 NKJV But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. [46] Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? [47] He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."
John 14:6 NKJV Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
2 Corinthians 4:3-6 NKJV But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, [4] whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. [5] For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. [6] For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
1 Peter 2:22 NKJV "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"
1 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV 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.
John 1:11 NKJV He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.
Isaiah 53:5-6 NKJV But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. [6] All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
John 3:19-20 NKJV And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. [20] For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
Isaiah 53:3 NKJV He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.