

JOHN

Chapter 19

Note from Kathy

These are difficult chapters to study, so much sadness, so much pain. It is heart wrenching to see all Jesus endured for us. But at the same time, it is good for us to slow down and thoughtfully consider the cost of our salvation. It is a free gift, but it was not without great cost. Let's be careful not to rush through or look away as we study this chapter.

John 19:4-7

"Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews gathered there, 'Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him.'⁵ When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!'⁶ As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, 'Crucify! Crucify!' But Pilate answered, 'You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him.'⁷ The Jewish leaders insisted, 'We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God.'"



Observation

1. Jesus has been awake for over 24 hours. He suffered the pain of the betrayal of Judas, and those who had been closest to him have abandoned him in fear. He has stood before a group of self-righteous Jewish leaders grilling him with their questions and accusations. He has even stood before the Roman Governor Pilate and been questioned by him. No one has produced a shred of evidence of anything he had truly done wrong, and yet, according to John 19:1, what did Pilate order?
2. What did the Roman soldiers do while he was under their charge?
3. Pilate must have thought that seeing Jesus after all he had suffered would be enough to quench their hatred for him. What was Pilate's testimony concerning Jesus?
4. What was the mood of the crowd when Jesus was brought out wearing the crown of thorns and purple robe?
5. Twice Pilate tells the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against him." But this was not what the Jewish leaders wanted to hear. What crime did they charge against Jesus in verse 7 that will forever stand as a witness that they had heard the truth and refused it?

Other Gospel Accounts Of Jesus' Trial

Matthew 27:11-31

Mark 15:1-20

Luke 22:63-71

Luke 23:1-25

6. Pilate went back to Jesus to question him once again. According to verse 9, what did Jesus do that might seem unusual for someone in this situation?

7. Pilate was probably getting a bit frustrated with Jesus at this point. According to verse 10, what did Pilate claim to have?

When Jesus answered Pilate, what truth did he share?

8. Pilate wanted no part in killing this innocent man. But he lacked the character and courage to stand for what was right. He gave in to the pressure of the crowd. What did the crowd accuse Pilate of in verse 12 that may have caused Pilate concern?

9. Pilate gives the order to crucify Jesus. A company of Roman soldiers (probably 200 men) were dispatched to lead Jesus away. Where did they take Jesus?

10. The soldiers placed Jesus on the cross and all four gospels record that a placard was placed over Jesus' head. This sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. What did the sign say?

11. According to verses 23-24, after nailing Jesus' hands and feet to the posts, raising the cross upright and dropping it in a hole, what did the soldiers do that showed their calloused and hardened hearts?

12. Besides the two thieves and the soldiers who was watching this horrific event?

13. In spite of all Jesus is going through he takes time to make provision for his mother. It was the responsibility of a son to care for his widowed mother. Since Jesus' death is imminent, who does he charge with her care?

14. Jesus actually made seven statements while on the cross. John only recorded three of them. Fill in the chart below with all seven.

7 Statements Jesus made from the cross
Luke 23:34
Luke 23:43

"When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴'Let's not tear it,' they said to one another. 'Let's decide by lot who will get it.' This happened that the scripture (Psalm 22:18) might be fulfilled that said, 'They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.' So this is what the soldiers did."

John 19:26-27
Matthew 27:46
John 19:28
Luke 23:46
John 19:30

15. Verses 31-37 tell us it was the day of preparation for the Passover. The Jews did not want these crucifixions to drag out. They did not want them to remain during a time of celebration. What request did they make of Pilate?

16. Two men are named in verses 38-42. Fill in the chart below with the names of these two men and the facts you find for them in Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50-52, John 3:1-2 and John 19:38-42.

Name		
Mark 15:43		
Luke 23:50-52		
John 3:1-2		
John 19:38-42		

Mark 15:43

“Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body.”

Luke 23:50-52

“Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, ⁵¹who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God. ⁵²Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body.”

John 3:1-2

“Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.’”

Application

Proverbs 29:25

“Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.”

Romans 3:25-26

“God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—²⁶he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.”

1. Pilate chose to appease the crowd at the expense of his own conscience. He ordered Jesus flogged even though he found no reason to punish him. Can you recall a time you tried to pacify those pressuring you and in the process went against your conscience?

How successful was it for Pilate? How well did it work out for you?

2. In verses 9-12 Pilate returned to Jesus trying to clarify for himself how things had escalated so quickly. Jesus' time of teaching is over. God's plan is being carried out, and Jesus is fully aware of all the future events. There is one point that Jesus does address and that is his authority. No one forced Jesus to the cross. He went of his own choice. Have you ever submitted to someone when it was fully within your power to change the situation, and yet, you felt this was God's will for you at that moment?
3. Pilate was a man caught in a very difficult situation. He had the power with his position to do what he knew was right, and yet, he allowed an angry crowd to pressure him to crucify an innocent man. Read Proverbs 29:25. How could this verse help you make the right decision if you are placed in a difficult situation?
4. In verses 25-27, we see Jesus' mother Mary witnessing all the cruelty inflicted on him. From the first few days of Jesus' life Mary has witnessed firsthand those who recognized Jesus as Messiah and those who opposed him. As his mother, and a true follower, what do you suppose she was thinking that day?

What was the only thing Mary could do at this point?

Think of a time when you had to stand by while someone you loved was treated unjustly. What did you do for your loved one?

5. No one took Jesus' life. Scripture tells us, Jesus gave up his spirit. In John 19:30, we read Jesus words, “It is finished.” That is the Greek word “tetelesti.” This word was often stamped on an account or bill that had been paid in full. Jesus had come for a purpose, and he had completed all the Father had given him to do. Read Romans 3:25-26. What was Jesus' purpose and mission?

What purpose and mission has God called you to carry out?

Luke 23:40-43

“But the other criminal rebuked him. ‘Don’t you fear God,’ he said, ‘since you are under the same sentence?’⁴¹ ‘We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.’⁴² Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’⁴³ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”

Mark 15:39

“And when the centurion, who there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, ‘Surely, this man was the Son of God!’”

6. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus may have been Pharisees but they both were also followers of Jesus. Neither of them voted in favor of Jesus' crucifixion, but what were two votes against so many others? Have you ever been faced with tremendous opposition to what you know is right? When the decision was made and the plan was put into motion, did you walk away and give up or remain as these two men and do what you could to serve the Lord well?

7. When Jesus died on the cross lives were changed.

- In Luke 23:40-43, one of the criminals being executed with Jesus came to believe in Jesus.
- Mark 15:39 tells us that a Roman centurion standing by Jesus gave a personal testimony of faith.
- And in our study of John 19 we have seen both Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus courageously came to Pilate to claim the body of Jesus and at great personal expense prepared it for burial. Next, they placed it in a tomb that Joseph had purchased for his own burial one day.

Have you declared your allegiance to Jesus in such a way that the world no longer wonders where you stand?

What are you willing to sacrifice in order to honor our LORD?