

“Jesus’ Kingship”

Mark 15:3-21

Events of Jesus' Roman Trial

- Jesus before Pilate (first hearing)
- Pilate questions Jesus → finds no guilt
- Sent to Herod → Jesus is mocked → Jesus is returned to Pilate
- Pilate again declares Jesus' innocence
- The Jewish crowd chooses Barabbas for release
- Jesus scourged and mocked in hopes of satisfying crowd
- Final pressure on Pilate to crucify Jesus
- Pilate condemns Jesus to crucifixion

Reality 1: Spiritual Nature of Jesus' Kingship

- John 18:37–38; Mark 15:3–5
- Jesus affirms He is a King, but not of this world
- His authority comes from divine origin, not human systems
- He came to testify to the truth of God
- His kingdom is spiritual and discerned by faith

Reality 2: The Ridicule of Jesus' Kingship

- Luke 23:8–12
- Herod and soldiers mock Jesus instead of honoring Him
- Jesus remains silent under false accusations
- The world rejects what it cannot spiritually discern
- Mockery reveals hardened hearts toward God

Reality 3: The Righteousness of Jesus' Kingship

- John 18:38; Luke 23:13–16
- Pilate repeatedly declares Jesus' innocence
- No true charge can be proven against Him
- Jesus is perfectly righteous and without sin
- The innocent is treated as guilty
- God's redemptive plan unfolds through the injustice and murder of Jesus

Reality 4: The Suffering of Jesus' Kingship

- John 19:1–6
- Jesus is scourged, beaten, and humiliated
- Soldiers place crown of thorns and robe on Jesus as mock worship
- Roman punishment reveals severity of His sacrifice
- He willingly endures suffering for sinners
- His kingship is revealed through sacrifice

Reality 5: The Sovereignty of Jesus' Kingship

- John 19:8–16
- Jesus declares all authority comes from above
- Pilate's power is limited and given by God
- God is sovereign over every detail of the trial
- Even rejection fulfills divine purpose
- Jesus reigns even in His condemnation

Reality 6: The Grace of Jesus' Kingship

- Mark 15:20–21
- Simon of Cyrene carries Jesus' cross
- God's grace works through unexpected people
- Jesus' suffering led to Simon's (and his family's) salvation
- Guilty sinners are spared while the innocent suffers
- Grace calls sinners to repentance and faith

Implication 1: No Neutral Ground with Christ

- Matthew 27:24; Hebrews 4:13
- There is no middle ground—every person is responsible to respond to Jesus
- Pilate tried to avoid responsibility but was still guilty
- We cannot blame circumstances, people, or past experiences
- Each person is accountable before God for their response to Christ
- All hearts are exposed before God—nothing can be hidden

Implication 2: Jesus' trial is a picture of the Great Exchange

- 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 1:16; Romans 5:9–10
- Salvation is a divine exchange, not human achievement
- We lack righteousness—God provides righteousness by faith in Christ
- Christ took our sin; we receive His righteousness by faith
- The innocent (Jesus) was condemned so the guilty (us) are pardoned
- God's grace opens our eyes and brings reconciliation
- Through Christ, we are justified, reconciled, and adopted