

Sunday Morning Message

March 26, 2023

Title – *Jesus Second Appearance Before Pilate*

Text – John 19:1 - 16

Congregational Reading – John 19:1 - 4

Introduction

We are examining the events occurring after Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane. We have discussed the denial of Peter, particularly considering the steps that led up to Peter's failure. In the last message, we saw Jesus' first appearance before Pilate and His appearance before King Herod.

Review the Timeline of Events:

1. Jesus Arrested (Matthew 26:47 – 56; Mark 14:43 – 52; Luke 22:47 – 53; John 18:2 – 11)
2. Jesus Is Brought Before Annas (John 18:12 – 14, 19 - 23)
3. Jesus Is Brought Before Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57, 59 – 68; Mark 14:53, 55 – 65; Luke 22:54, 63 - 65; John 18:24)
4. Peter's Denials (Matthew 26:58, 69 – 75; Mark 14:54, 66 – 72; Luke 22:55 – 62; John 18:15 – 18, 25 – 27)
5. Jesus Condemned by the Sanhedrin (Matthew 27:1 - 2; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66 – 71)
6. Suicide of Judas (Matthew 27: 3 – 10)

Timeline of events that will follow Jesus' appearance before the high priests, and the Sanhedrin:

7. Jesus First Appearance Before Pilate (Matthew 27:11 – 14; Mark 15:2 – 5; Luke 23:1 – 5; John 18:28 – 38)
8. Jesus Appears Before Herod (Luke 23:6 – 12)
9. Jesus Second Appearance Before Pilate and Release of Barabbas (Matthew 27:15 – 26; Mark 15:6 – 15; Luke 23:13 – 25; John 18:39 – 40)

10. Jesus Mocked and Beaten and Final Sentence Pronounced (Matthew 27:27 – 31; Mark 15:16 – 19; John 19:1 – 16)
11. Journey to Golgotha (Matthew 27:32 – 34; Mark 15:20 – 23; Luke 23:26 – 32; John 19:17)
12. The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:35 – 44; Mark 15:24 – 32; Luke 23:33 – 43; John 19:18 – 27)
13. The Last Hours (Matthew 27:45 – 50; Mark 15:33 – 37; Luke 23:44 – 46; John 19:28 – 37)
14. Miraculous Occurrences at the Cross (Matthew 27:51 – 56; Mark 15:38 – 41; Luke 23:47 – 49)
15. Jesus' Burial (Matthew 27:57 – 61; Mark 15:42 – 47; Luke 23:50 – 56; John 19:38 – 42)
16. Pilate Seals the Tomb (Matthew 27:62 – 66)

Why do we study these events? For several reasons:

- We want to appreciate the sacrifice made by the Lord to provide salvation for us.
- We want to be inspired to be willing to make sacrifices for others as well.

There are several different characters that play out in this drama:

The Politician, The Priests and Religious Leaders, and the Common People

The Priests influence the people, and if enough people start hollering, it will impact the Politicians.

The only way for godliness to survive in a system like this is for all involved to live their lives by principle, and not passion; to live, not by the fear of man, but by the fear of God.

Reading of passage in chronological order from the different accounts with John as the main text: **Luke in Red; Matthew in Blue; Mark in Green**

"Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him. And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe, And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands." - (John 19:1 - 3)

We learned in the last message that the soldiers with Herod put a "gorgeous robe" on Jesus (see Luke 23:8 – 12). This could be a reference to that event, and, if so, it would mean that Herod soldiers were the ones who may have put the crown of thorns on Him. Pilate

probably had Jesus scourged to appease the religious leaders. He probably thought that they would be satisfied with just that. Scourging, or flogging, was done with a whip, known as a cat of nine tails. It was made of leather that pieces of bone and metal that would dig in the flesh and tear it out.

"Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him. Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!" - (John 19:4 - 5)

Jesus was beaten to a pulp and completely humiliated by Herod and Pilate. But, that would not satisfy the satanic blood lust of these religious leaders:

"When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him. The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;" - (John 19:6 - 8)

Pilate is trying to get out of this situation. The religious leaders are not budging in the slightest. They want Jesus dead, but they are unwilling to do it themselves. They want Pilate to do their dirty work for them.

"And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?" Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." - (John 19:9 - 11)

Here, Jesus points out that Pilate's authority comes from God. This is not saying that Pilate was godly, but merely that the civil power of government was ordained by God:

"1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." (Romans 13:1-7)

Obviously, there are limits to government's God-ordained power, and when government exceeds the power given to it by God, we ought to obey God rather than men.

He also tells us here that the religious leaders are more accountable for what was taking place than the Roman authority (v. 11). Notice also that there are levels of sin. Some sins are worse than others. God hates all sin, any sin, but there are sins that God says are more heinous than others. He is holding these religious leaders more responsible than Pilate. Why?

"47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." (Luke 12:47-48)

Remember, we learned last week that Pilate's wife had warned him not to condemn Jesus:

"When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him." - (Matthew 27:19)

Note - This probably happened earlier when Jesus first appeared before Pilate.

Pilate's wife is traditionally thought to have converted to Christianity sometime after this. She certainly had a fear of Christ. She is thought to possibly be the Claudia of 2 Timothy 4:21.

"And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha." - (John 19:12 - 13)

This place, the Pavement, is the place where official judgment would be made.

"And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!" - (John 19:14)

Notice again that "it was the preparation for the Passover," meaning it was the day before the Passover, which would begin that night at sundown. The sixth hour of the day was 12 Noon. This whole ordeal started the night before. The Last Supper was the evening before. He was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane and brought before the Sanhedrin late into the night. He appeared the first time before Pilate in the morning. Now, it is noon.

"But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them,

Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar." - (John 19:15)

The pressure was just too great for Pilate to get his way. The people outside were on the verge of revolt. Pilate's main priority was to keep the peace and quell any riots.

"When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it." - (Matthew 27:24)

"Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children." - (Matthew 27:25)

"Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified." - (Matthew 27:26)

"Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away." - (John 19:16)

"And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band." - (Mark 15:16)

"And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head," - (Mark 15:17)

"And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!" - (Mark 15:18)

"And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him." - (Mark 15:19)

"And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him." - (Mark 15:20)

"And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross." - (Mark 15:21)

Cyrene is a city in northern Libya on the Coast of the Mediterranean Sea. There seem to have been many Jews or Jewish proselytes from that area. (Acts 2:10 {Pentecost}; Acts 11:20; 13:1 {Antioch}) Simon was there with his two sons to participate in the Passover.

"And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him." - (Luke 23:27)

"But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." - (Luke 23:28)

"For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck." - (Luke 23:29)

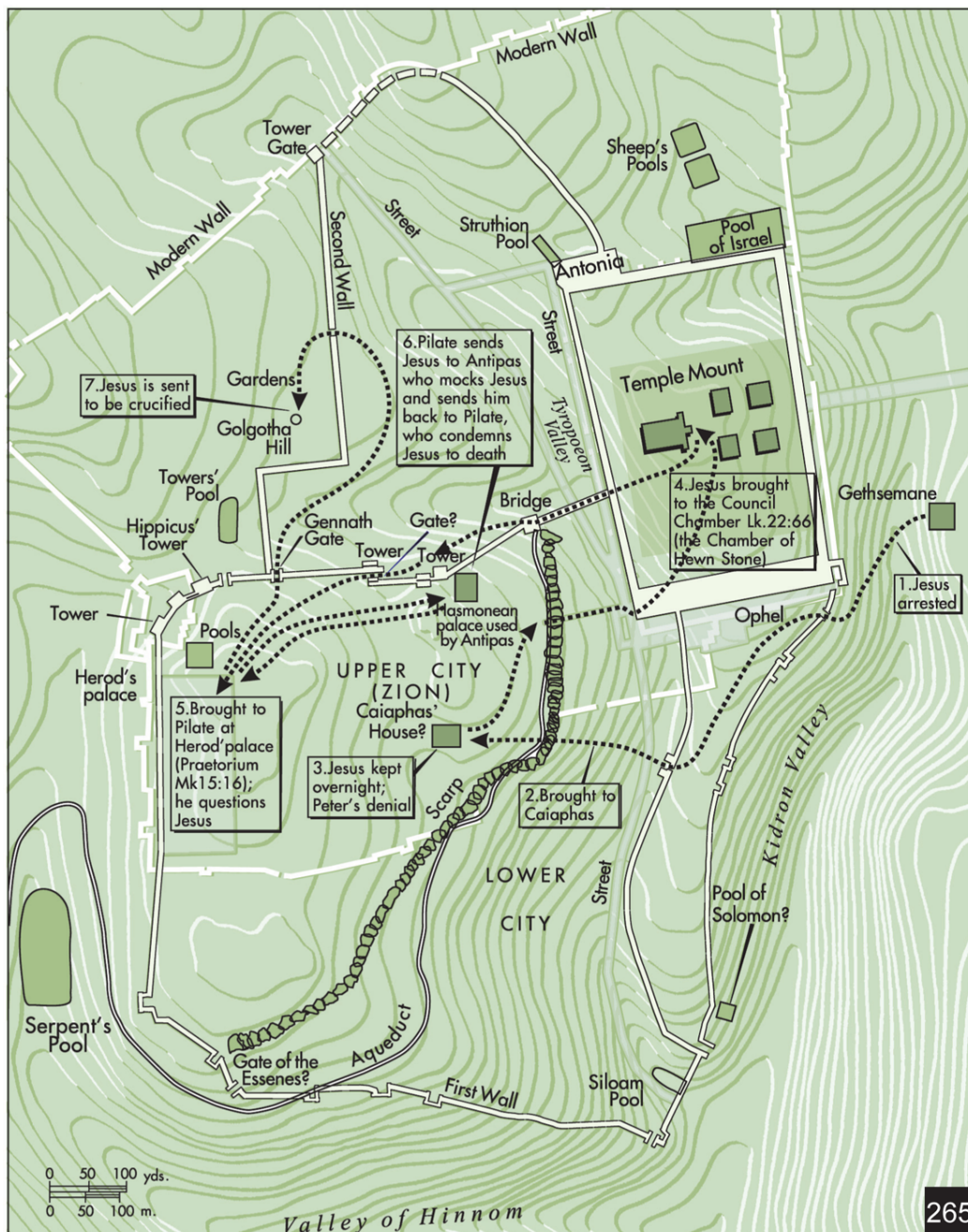
"Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us." - (Luke 23:30)

"For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?" - (Luke 23:31)

"And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death." - (Luke 23:32)

"And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull." - (Mark 15:22)

The following illustration shows the possible sequence of events with the places that Jesus travelled from and to on His way to the Cross:



Conclusion

The important thing for us to remember from this story is that Jesus ultimately came to this earth to die on the Cross for our sins. Every day of His life was pointed toward this event. He came *"to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10).

Sin must be punished; it must be crucified, put to death. Jesus took your sin and my sin upon you when He went to that Cross. All of what Jesus endured that day was part of God's wrath being poured out upon your sin, and mine.

Jesus loves you. He proved His love for you by dying for you.

"8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

*"13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."
(John 15:13)*

Do you believe that? Do you believe that God's Son loved you so much that He came to earth to be punished for your sins?

Have you received His gift of eternal life?

"23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

"8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

If you have not yet placed your faith in Christ by receiving His free gift of salvation, you need to do it today while God is speaking to your heart about it.

If you have already received Him, just remember this:

He died for you. He wants you to live for Him.

*"1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."
(Romans 12:1-2)*

He just wants you now to turn your life over to Him. Obey His word; yield to His Holy Spirit who lives within you and submit to His plan for your life.