

**Light & Life – The Book Of John**  
**“Truth On Trial” John 18:28-19:15**  
**Cornerstone Church Of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**March 17, 2024**

**Sermon Notes**

**Big Idea:** We often resist truth because truth requires accountability.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6 (NIV)**

**Will We Accept Jesus Or Reject Him?**

<sup>28</sup> Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the **palace of the Roman governor**. By now it was early morning, and **to avoid ceremonial uncleanness** the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the **Passover**. <sup>29</sup> So **Pilate came out to them** and asked, "What **charges** are you bringing against this man?" <sup>30</sup> "If he were not a **criminal**," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you." / <sup>31</sup> Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." "But we have no right to **execute** anyone," the Jews objected. <sup>32</sup> This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the **kind of death** he was going to die would be **fulfilled**. <sup>33</sup> Pilate then went back inside the **palace**, summoned Jesus and asked him, "**Are you the king of the Jews?**" <sup>34</sup> "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?" <sup>35</sup> "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?" <sup>36</sup> Jesus said, "**My kingdom is not of this world**. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from **another place**." <sup>37</sup> "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this **reason** I was born, and for this I came into the world, to **testify to the truth**. **Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.**" **John 18:28-37 (NIV)**

<sup>38</sup> "**What is truth?**" Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, "**I find no basis for a charge against him**." <sup>39</sup> But it is your custom for me to release to you **one prisoner** at the time of the **Passover**. Do you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'?" <sup>40</sup> They shouted back, "No, not him! Give us **Barabbas!**" Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.  
**John 18:38-40 (NIV)**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him **flogged**. <sup>2</sup> The soldiers twisted together a **crown of thorns** and put it on his head. They clothed him in a **purple robe** <sup>3</sup> and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they **struck** him in the face. <sup>4</sup> Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that **I find no basis for a charge against him**." <sup>5</sup> When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" <sup>6</sup> 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**." <sup>7</sup> The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because **he claimed to be the Son of God**."  
**John 19:1-7 (NIV)**

<sup>8</sup> When Pilate heard this, he was even more **afraid**, <sup>9</sup> and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have **power either to free you or to crucify**

**you?"** <sup>11</sup> Jesus answered, **"You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.** Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

<sup>12</sup> From then on, **Pilate tried to set Jesus free**, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." <sup>13</sup> When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). <sup>14</sup> It was the **day of Preparation of Passover Week**, about the sixth hour. **"Here is your king,"** Pilate said to the Jews. <sup>15</sup> But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" **"Shall I crucify your king?"** Pilate asked. **"We have no king but Caesar,"** the chief priests answered. **John 19:8-15 (NIV)**

"When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" <sup>25</sup> All the people answered, "Let his blood be on us and on our children!" **Matthew 27:24-25 (NIV)**

### **Three Truths We Need To Know:**

#### **1. God Has Made The Truth Known To Every Heart**

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who **suppress the truth** by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup> since what may be known about God is **plain to them**, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world **God's invisible qualities**--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has **been made**, so that men are without excuse. **Romans 1:18-20 (NIV)**

#### **2. If We Refuse The Truth, We Will Believe A Lie**

Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; <sup>9</sup> *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all the **deception of wickedness** for those who **perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.** <sup>11</sup> For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, <sup>12</sup> in order that they all may be judged **who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.** **2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 (NASB)**

#### **3. We Must Choose To Receive Jesus or Reject Him**

"He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters. **Matthew 12:30 (NIV)**

"Whoever **acknowledges** me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever **disowns** me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven. **Matthew 10:32-33 (NIV)**

➤ **What decision have you made about Jesus?**

#### **My Next Right Step, I Will:**

Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior

Follow Jesus in Believer's Baptism

Find a Place To Serve  First Impressions  Media  Children's Ministry

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**Small Group Leader:** Choose how many questions that will honor your time commitment. Encourage everyone to participate in either a question, reading or prayer. If using this as a family, use the icebreaker section to go deeper on Sunday’s teaching.

**Big Idea:** We often resist truth because truth requires accountability.

**Open in Prayer.**

**Icebreaker:**

Do you agree or disagree with the big idea? Why or why not?

When have you felt as if you were being interrogated because of your faith?

When have you been punished or disciplined for speaking the truth?

**Explore It**

**Read John 18:28-19:15**

Why didn’t the Jews who lead Jesus to the Roman governor enter the palace? (18:28)

\*What choice did Pilate present to the Jews? (18:38-39)

What is one truth you need to speak today regardless of the consequences?

When have you been tempted to do what works rather than what’s right?

What can you change about your speech in order to be a more open and consistent follower of Jesus?

\*When, like Jesus, have you been willing to stand your ground regardless of the consequences?

How would you answer the question, "What is truth?"

**Read Romans 1:18-20**

Who will the wrath of God be revealed to?

What has God made known to every heart?

**Read 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12**

Who will believe the deception of wickedness? Why?

Instead of truth, what do they take pleasure in?

**Read Matthew 12:30**

**Read Matthew 10:32-33**

How is Jesus the King in your life?

In what settings might you need to stand up for the truth this week regardless of the consequences?

What is one way you can rearrange your priorities this week in honor of God as King over you?

**Close in prayer:**