

## Luke 23.1-25

Luke is Careful to place Birth/Death/Resurrect in Historical Context

SALVATION is Based on Things that REALLY Occurred

Angel meets Zech/John: 1.5 “in the days of Herod, king of Judea”

Bethlehem: 2.1,2 “Caesar Augustus, Quirinius governor of Syria”

APOSTLES Creed “he suffered under Pontius Pilate”

Skeptics MOCKED – Only EVIDENCE of him was BIBLE

1961 ITALIAN Archeologists discovered inscription in Herod’s amphitheater in Caesarea:  
“Pontius Pilate, prefect of Judea, has dedicated to the people of Caesarea a temple in honor of Tiberius”

REAL Person > FAMOUS Enough > Name on Public Monument

Archeologists uncovered Pavement where Jesus stood before Pilate

### 1. Jewish Sanhedrin: Hardened and Hopeless

Ch 22 Jesus before the SANHEDRIN / 70 Jewish Elders @ Daybreak

Sanhedrin: DIVIDED btween Sadducees/Pharisees GRIDLOCK!

2 Strong Political Parties NOT LIKE eachOther – Never Heard That!

NEVER Moved so FAST! >> United in HATRED of Jesus

Their Charge > Blasphemy “Son of God” contra 3<sup>rd</sup> Command

Problem > Roman’s NOT Care – CAESAR was God, Others too

JEWS in Occupied Territory NO RIGHT to EXECUTE People

v. 1 Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate

Luke 2 Key Facts @ Jesus 1 True King God’s People 2 Innocent!

v. 3 Pilate asked Jesus “Are you the King of the Jews?”

“You have SAID SO” – Only words Spoken by Jesus in Text

COMPLICATION > Jesus NOT GUILTY under ROMAN Law

v. 5 But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.”

Switched Charges: From Blasphemy TO Subversive, Insurrection

v. 6,7 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean: And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem

NOT Sure when Heard about Wife's DREAM (Matt 27.19)

Pilate Politician > Kick Can of Decision Making Down the Road!

Roman LAW – Person TRIED where Accused OR Home Area

## 2. Herod the Tetrarch: Curious and Frivolous

Herod = TITLE / SON of H. GREAT: tried to KILL Baby Jesus

ANTIPAS – Ruler of GALILEE > Puppet of ROME

v. 8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him: Happy to see Magic Tricks!

Herod CURIOUS & CRUEL: Beheaded John Baptist & Ap. James

Dancing Daughter Wife HERODIAS > Presented w HEAD J the B

Mark – “Herod...heard him and was greatly perplexed” 6.20

GUILT > Wondered if Jesus was GHOST of Baptizer!

Religion 4 Some like Vaccination: Prevents them get REAL Thing

INTERESTED in Spiritual Things > NOT Enough to REPENT

v. 9 So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer.

Jesus REFUSED to Cooperate > No SIGNS or ANSWERS

SHAMED by Jesus' Silence > Herod uses Jesus for SPORT

Herod would have FUN > One Way or ANOTHER

MOCK the Living God > Let Soldiers ATTACK Him

Got Some ROBES from Thrift Store > Let Jesus Play Dress Up!

v. 11 Herod w his soldiers treated him w contempt & mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate.

3 Participles v. 11 SINGULAR > HEROD was Head MOCKER

“Such was Herod’s estimate of Jesus. He put him on the level of a new dancer or singer; he looked on His miracles as a species of conjuring or magic; and he expected Him to entertain like as in a magic arts show”  
Dale Ralph Davis

“This is the same attitude many people have today. They want God to entertain them, and they will mock him if he fails to give them the pleasures they want out of life” Philip Ryken

### 3. Governor Pilate: Convinced yet Compromised

HEROD Ping-Ponged PRISONER Back to Pontius Pilate

JESUS keeps SHOWING Up > Cannot AVOID Him! Loves us!!

“If you try to push Jesus out of your life, hoping you will not have to make a firm decision about him, he keeps coming back. You cannot decide to do nothing w Jesus...If the Bible is right that believing in Jesus is the difference between living forever in heaven & suffering forever in hell, then what we do with him is the most important decision we’ll ever make. This is why Jesus keeps coming back: he wants us to make the right decision about him” Philip Ryken

v. 12 Herod & Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Alliance of Evil / Psalm 2: Why do the nations rage & the peoples plot in vain? The kings of earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed...

“Rather than believing in Jesus and getting reconciled to God, these men were reconciled to one another by mistreating Jesus” Philip Ryken

ALLIANCE on ONE Thing Unbelievers Agree > GET RID Jesus

Accusers NOT get Story Straight > Sanhedrin charged BLASPHEMY

Non-Starter in Roman Court: Many People are gods in Roman World

That Charge NOT STICK > Let’s Try INSURRECTION!

v. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king”

Religious Leaders RELENTLESS > Bald Faced LIAR!

Charges NOT Plausible > Jewish Leaders defending ROME??!

Jesus Shamed Them w COIN > Render to Caesar what is Caesar’s

Responsible to ROME AND Responsible to GOD > TRUE KING

Pilate CONFLICTED > Warned by WIFE who Dreamed @ Jesus

v. 13 Pilate called together the chief priests & rulers & the PEOPLE  
 Tried to get PEOPLE to push Leaders back to COMMON SENSE  
 Pilate HOPED Common People would speak UP to Save JESUS

v. 14 “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people”  
 Not Seeking POLITICAL Power to Rule People/Place on EARTH  
 Common Sense did NOT Prevail > Pilate was CLEAR but Cowardly

Luke compresses STORY to make 2 Things about Jesus Crystal Clear

1) Jesus is INNOCENT > Pilate declares it THREE Times

v. 4 Pilate to chief priests & crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.”

v 14,15 After examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him.

v. 22 3<sup>rd</sup> time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death.

INNOCENCE of Jesus is NECESSARY for our JUSTIFICATION

Everyone DIES for their OWN Sins > Jesus NO SIN to Die FOR

NOT Crucified as GUILTY CRIMINAL > But GOD & KING

Pilate did ALL he could to Release Jesus EXCEPT Release Him

Thought he was DOING what he could for Jesus – Did NOTHING

Hoping he will GO AWAY so he can CARRY ON with his LIFE

TRIALS pose Problem of All of US > Do Something w/ Jesus!

vs. 15,16 “Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him.”

v. 22 “I have found in him no guilt...I will therefore punish him!”

Watch Lots Court Room / Lawyer Shows > Never seen One Like This

Defendant declared Not Guilty: Judge take him Out & Slap Around!

ALL of us are Responsible for What WE DO with Jesus

Pilate did even More to Release Jesus > but Still NEVER Released Jesus

Passover Trad: Rome Release Prisoner to Pacify Troublesome Jews

Pilate SURE they'd Want King of Jews to be Set Free! NOPE!!

vs. 18-21 But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!"

Pilate releases the man GUILTY of insurrection & murder

BARABBAS – Son of the Father!

"Imagine what it must have been like for that prisoner when he heard the good news of his exchange. He was not going to die after all; he was going home free, because Jesus would die instead! For Barabbas this was pure grace... There was nothing he could do to gain his own pardon or grant his own release... His life was spared only because Jesus died in his place. The gospel gives us the same good news"

Philip Ryken

So Pilate the COWARD had Painted himself into a CORNER!

Barabas was Forever Grateful that Pilate was a COWARD!

Luke wants READER to know 2 Things – Jesus is INNOCENT!

One Proclaims Innocence Most Loudly > Order his EXECUTION

2<sup>nd</sup> Truth Luke Emphasizes for Us > Jesus IS King!

v. 3 Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so."

TEMPLE Guards mocked as Prophet / Romans mocked at KING  
Jesus should be ADORED– Not Abused/ Reverence Not Contempt  
Many People MOCK Jesus Today > Rights for All but Xtians!

Jesus CLAIM of Kingship NOT Just about Him > ON US!  
IF Jesus is King > Demands Nothing Less than WORSHIP  
How many DAYS Go By & We Not think of Jesus as KING?  
Do YOU hear His ROYAL Decrees in Scripture Daily?  
Do those Around us KNOW that Jesus is our KING?

v. 25 He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

Jesus NOT Speak ONE Word in His OWN Defense > MISSION!

Luke 22.67 “If I tell you, you will NOT believe”

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.  
Isaiah 53.7

From Here we will Witness most Terrible Crime in Human History

Terrible but Wonderful: If Jesus NOT go Cross, We'd Not be Here

Verdict that WE Deserve > He SUFFERED for US

When YOU Stand before Him > He WILL Speak – Life or Death

If You BELONG to Him: Paid your PENALTY > Speaks for You!

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.  
1 Peter 2.22,23

DESTRUCTION of Jesus > God ALLOWED > DELIVERANCE!

Peter @ Pentec: “this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan & foreknowledge of God, you crucified & killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it” Acts 2.22-24