

Sermon – April 2, 2010
Topic – The Most Famous Court Case in History

Song – Happy Day

Welcome: To Easter Service (read scripture - Acts 2:22-24&36)

Songs:

- Lord I Lift Your Name on High
- You're Worthy of My Praise
- In Christ Alone
- Hallelujah to My King

Announcements:

- Grace to do communion next week
- 16th – Fredi & Zambia photos
- Website Updated
- Prayer Meetings to start on 20th April
- [Internet Evangelism Day](#) – ANZAC Day – [Rockhampton Church](#)
- April 30 – BBQ & DVD Night for Church – Invite Your friends

Sermon:

What is the Most Famous Court Case in History?

- Any ideas
- OJ Simpson??
- Wade V Roe??
- Breaker Morant??
- Nelson Mandela??
- NO... Jesus

Pilate was the Man Responsible for Judging Jesus

- Imagine you are pilate
- A man is brought to you
- He is accused of claiming to be a king
- He is accused of claiming to be God
- He is accused of blasphemy
- The Jews want him killed.
- You are responsible to Caesar to keep the peace.

Pilate Had a message From His Wife:

- Matt 27:19
- Right from the beginning Pilate knew Jesus was innocent and to avoid Him.
- So He tried 3 different strategies

First – Palm Off Responsibility

- Luke 23:306
- Pilate declares Jesus innocent.
- Jesus is from Galilee, so Pilate send him off to see Herod
- Pilate thinks – **“this is someone elses problem”**
- But Herod is not interested and sends Him back to Pilate.

Second – Compromise

- Once again he says Jesus is innocent
- Pilate now tries to make everyone happy
- Luke 23:13-15
- Pilate thinks – **“If I everyone something, everyone will be happy.”**
- But when you compromise, nobody is usually happy.

Third – Washed His Hands

- Pilate ended up giving in to the crowd
- He chose His own popularity over justice
- Luke 27:15-18 & 22-26
- He washed his hands and pretended it **“has nothing to do with me”**
- He let them choose saying it was their fault.
- He decided not to choose – but that was actually still a choice

So the Most Famous Trial in History Ended in Injustice

- The judge gave in to pleasing himself, pleasing others and was corrupt
- He did not uphold justice and instead sent an innocent man to His death
- He declared Jesus innocent 3 times.

The Dilemna of Pilate

- Matt 27:22
- “what shall I do with this Jesus who is called Christ?”

This is the same Dilemna every human faces

- it is not just Pilate who has to decide about Jesus – it is everyone
- What will you do with this Jesus who is called Christ?

People Do the Same As Pilate:

- Some people palm off responsibility
- Some people compromise
- Some people say “it has nothing to do with me”
- Some people choose to put themselves first and ignore Jesus
- By making no choice – they are choosing to say no.

What to Do with Jesus:

- Acknowledge Him, Give Yourself to Him, Obey Him, The gift of Easter will be yours – eternal life.

Video & Communion