

Morning Sermon August 25, 2019
“Behold Your King?” John 19:1-16

What should we see?

I. *See in Jesus’ suffering, man’s sinful hatred for God and His rule –*

19 So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him*. **2** And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put *it* on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. **3** Then they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they struck Him with their hands. John 19:1-3

1. *See the hatred in the beating itself –*
 - A. *Scourging – “with scourges, called *scorpions*, leather thongs (whips) tipped with sharp spikes.” M.R. Vincent*

Historians of the time: Eusebius, Josephus, and Cicero write of people dying from the scourge. A scourging typically reached to the bone.

Leon Morris, quoting Eusebius writes ... martyrs “were torn by scourges down to deep-seated veins and arteries, so that the hidden contents of the recesses of their bodies, their entrails and organs were exposed to sight.”

- B. *On top of this, Jesus wore a crown of thorns, and was struck with the soldier’s hands!*
2. *We see hatred also, in the soldier’s dressing and mocking of Jesus!*

In Isaiah’s prophecy we are told –

¹⁴ ... **So His visage (face) was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; Isaiah 52:14**

3. *We see hatred in the fact that the beating and mocking were NOT ENOUGH –*

4 Pilate then went out again, and said to them, “Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him.” **5** Then Jesus

came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And *Pilate* said to them, “Behold the Man!”

“Evidently he thought that if he mutilated Jesus, the mob would pity him and set him free.” R.Kent Hughes

But the beating was not enough -

6 Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify *Him*, crucify *Him!*” John 19:4-6 A

4. *We see another kind of hatred in their misreading of the Law and their misunderstanding of God’s revelation –*

Pilate said to them, “You take Him and crucify *Him*, for I find no fault in Him.” **7** The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.” John 19:6 B – 7

- A. *What Pilate saw, with little revelation was “no fault”*

“Evidently he thought that if he mutilated Jesus, the mob would pity him and set him free.” R.Kent Hughes

- B. *What they MISSED was a right understanding of Old Testament Prophecy and Jesus’ own revelation about Himself and the Father -*

Jesus was not only innocent, which even Pilate could see, He really was and is God’s Son -

22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. **23** He who hates Me hates My Father also. **24** If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. **25** But *this happened* that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, ‘*They hated Me without a cause.*’ John 15:22-25

45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. John 8:45

5. *Finally, we see their hatred in the fact they chose an enemy before Him –*

15 But they cried out, “Away with *Him*, away with *Him!* Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” **16** Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus and led *Him* away. John 19:15-16

Ultimately this was Pilate's sin too, as both he and the Jews feared Caesar more than Jesus!

II. See in Jesus' suffering, God's extreme endurance, love, mercy and patience in His work to bring man to salvation –

⁸Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, ⁹and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" ¹¹Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." John 19:8-11

1. *Note Jesus had already been severely beaten!*
2. *Note His concern in speaking to Pilate is "Pilate's sin."*
3. *He came to SAVE US when we were still fighting against Him –*

⁶For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6-8

Such salvation is not only from sin's penalty but also from its power and ultimately from its very presence!

III. See in Jesus' suffering, a King worthy of our loyalty and obedience -

⁵Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!"

⁶Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" John 19:5-6

1. *Pilate thought they should see and pity Him, hasn't He had enough?*
 2. *God wants us to see a King worthy of our worship and following –*
- ⁹And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll,

And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." Revelation 5:9-10

Note in these verses,

1. *What is it that makes the Lamb "worthy?" Answer: That He was slain!*
2. *What does this do for us?*
 - A. *We are redeemed to God by His blood*
 - B. *We are made kings and priests*
3. *What kind of kings are we to be? Kings like Christ or kings like an ungodly world?*

A. We are to be kings like Christ –

⁴²But Jesus called them to **Himself** and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. ⁴⁴And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:42-45

B. This means some endurance of wrong –

⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. Matthew 5:44-48

C. It also means speaking the truth to sinners –

⁴⁴You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. John 8:44-45

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