



Sunday, March 27, 2022
How Do We See Jesus?
 Mark 15:1–15

Don't Confuse Wants with Needs

Psalm 2:1–12

¹ Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, ³ ***“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”***

⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. ⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶ ***“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”*** ⁷ I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, ***“You are my Son; today I have begotten you.”*** ⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹ ***Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.*** ¹² ***Kiss the Son, lest he be angry,*** and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

- **Unbelieving Hearts** say, “We need to be free from God’s rule!”
- **Reality** says, “We need to Kiss the Son...!” (**Creational Need**)

Corresponding Gospel Need: We (humanity) need to be rescued from our wicked idolatrous hearts.

The King Gives His Life as a Ransom for Many (Cpts. 14–15)

Jesus’ Trial before Pilate (15:1–15)

Why was this Evil Plot Part of God’s Plan?

Acts 4:25–28

²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, (Ps. 2)

“Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed”—

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both **Herod** and **Pontius Pilate**, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do **whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.**

1. **How is your tone with God?** (e.g. Luke 1:18, 34 – Zechariah vs. Mary)
 - **Unbelief** says, “Prove it to me.”
 - **Trust** says, “help me understand it.”

(Review) **The Disciples Fled:** "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Mark 14:38

A Cautionary Tale Concerning Our Evil, Idolatrous Hearts

I. Why was Jesus Delivered to Pilate? (15:1)

15 And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and *delivered him over to Pilate.*

John 18:29–32

²⁹ So **Pilate** went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ **They answered** him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." ³¹ **Pilate** said to them, "*Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.*" **The Jews** said to him, "*It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.*" ³² *This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken* to show by what kind of death he was going to die. (Jn. 12:32-33; Mk. 10:33)

- A. Why did they think they "needed" Pilate?
- B. What did they really need?

II. The Only Charge Jesus will Acknowledge (15:2–5)

(15:2–5) ² And **Pilate** asked him, "*Are you the King of the Jews?*" And he answered him, "*You have said so.*" ³ And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ And **Pilate** again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ **But Jesus made no further answer**, so that *Pilate was amazed.*

John 18:33–38

³³ So **Pilate** entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "*Are you the King of the Jews?*" ³⁴ **Jesus** answered, "*Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?*" ³⁵ **Pilate** answered, "*Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?*" ³⁶ **Jesus** answered, "*My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.*" ³⁷ Then **Pilate** said to him, "*So you are a king?*" **Jesus** answered, "*You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.*" ³⁸ **Pilate** said to him, "*What is truth?*" After he had said this, he went back outside to the **Jews** and told them, "*I find no guilt in him.*"

2. "Kiss the Son!" Jesus is the divinely appointed king!

John 19:7–12

⁷ **The Jews** answered him, "*We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.*" ⁸ When

Pilate heard this statement, *he was even more afraid.* ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “*Where are you from?*” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ So Pilate said to him, “*You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?*” ¹¹ Jesus answered him, “*You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.*” ¹² From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “*If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.*”

- A. What did Pilate think he “needed”?
- B. What did he really need?

III. What We Think We Need Isn't What We Need (15:6–15)

(15:6–15) ⁶ Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷ And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸ And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹ And he answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” ¹⁰ For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹² And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” ¹³ And they cried out again, “Crucify him.” ¹⁴ And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.” ¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

- A. What did the crowd think they “needed”?
- B. What did they really need?

3. We do not want to look at our own sin (Idolatry)
4. Sometimes we just want power, status or recognition...
5. Sometimes while the idea of a creator God who has installed his king makes us nervous... Do right in my own eyes & wash my hands of the religious stuff...
6. Sometimes we want we want God’s rescue to be different...
7. What we all truly need is impossible without the **gospel** 
(Jn. 3:3, 5)

We need to be rescued from our wicked idolatrous hearts!
We need to be given eyes to see...!

Meditate on Mark 11–16 for Coming Sermons

(We will cover Mark 15:21–47 Sunday, April 3)

- I. Read **Mark 15:21–47** several times. How is this story organized? What is the relationship between the different episodes?
 - II. How does this text teach us something about Jesus and/or his mission? Is there a pattern for the Christian life exemplified here? What are we being warned against? What are we being instructed to do?
 - III. Sum up the main point in **Mark 15:21–47** in one short sentence.
 - IV. How does this text change/strengthen how you think, act or feel as a Christian?
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Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. How is your tone with God when you ask him questions?
2. Which type of temptation do find more enticing (e.g. self-righteousness, "let's not get to religious", wanting a different kind of rescue)?
3. If not these specific temptations, what desire in your heart does tempt you away from a trusting submission to Jesus? Who can you talk and pray about this with?
4. How is your spiritual temperature? Do you find yourself wanting to talk about Jesus and spiritual realities?
5. How aware are you of your complete dependance on God's rescue? Do you believe you are born again? Why or why not? Who can you talk and pray about this with?