

## Luke 23 -- The love of your life

**1** And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. **2** And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King. What was it about Jesus that caused this vehement reaction in the mob? You don't see people this worked up about a serial killer. **3** And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, Thou sayest it. Is that it? **4** Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man. This is a very strange interaction. You are on trial for your life, the judge asks "are you the king of the Jews"? Yes, you said it, that is why they are so upset. This is jealousy, Pilate realizes it, I see no fault in this man. **5** And they were the more fierce, saying, He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place. **6** When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean. **7** And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time. **8** And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. **9** Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. **10** And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. It is very strange. You can tell Pilate wants nothing to do with judging Jesus and Herod is so happy to see this man who he has heard about. But look who is angry, jealous, even vehemently accusing Jesus. It is the priests and scribes. **11** And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate. **12** And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves. Herod is used to having court jesters and magicians. He thought Jesus would perform for him. What we see here is just despicable. Herod is a judge, he is supposed to judge concerning very serious charges against Jesus but because Jesus won't perform for him and entertain him he gets angry and sends him back. He is acting like a spoiled child. **13** And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, **14** Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: **15** No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to

him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him. **16** I will therefore chastise him, and release him. This would be like the mayor of a city putting a letter of reprimand in the file for the police responsible for George Floyd's death. **17** (For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.) **18** And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas: **19** (Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.) Instead the mob demands that you release this man who just walked up to a cop car and ambushed the cops shooting two cops in LA. **20** Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. **21** But they cried, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. The crowd has been whipped into a frenzy by someone, some evil spirit. **22** And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go. Really, what evil has Jesus done? He has healed people, raised people from the dead, and freed people from demon possession. What He has done is to overthrow Satan's kingdom. If you couldn't see people caught in the grip of Satan's kingdom before you can't miss it now, it is as clear as a bell. **23** And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed. So much for law and order. They shouted louder so they are going to kill Jesus? **24** And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. **25** And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will. Let's be clear, Jesus knew that if He was going to rescue us from the Satanic kingdom He would have to be delivered to their will. **26** And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. **27** And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. It seems so confusing, there is a great company of people who are lamenting Jesus being condemned to death, yet the voices of those shouting to crucify Him prevailed? **28** But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. **29** For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. **30** Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. **31** For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry? Look at how outrageous Herod, Pilate, the chief priests and the scribes behaved. Yet, the point is the horror will be much greater at the end of this age. For example, we have had

many forest fires in the history of the US, but look at how horrifying they are when the forest is dried out. There has been drought, heat wave, and an infestation of bark beetles all that have caused the forest to dry out. As vehement this fire was, it was all focused on one man, Jesus Christ. But at the end of the age it will be focused on the many, on the forest. They are choosing one who will suck all the life out of the forest so that when it does burn it is a raging inferno. **32** And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. **33** And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. **34** Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. This is who they are crucifying the one who would have saved them, the one who sees the coming destruction and even in this moment is warning people. Today how many people could say this, "forgive them for they know not what they do". There is a lot of screaming back and forth that people "don't know what they are doing" but you don't hear any forgiving, only condemning. **35** And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. **36** And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, **37** And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. Instead of forgiveness all you hear is insults. **38** And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, This Is The King Of The Jews. **39** And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. Jesus didn't need to be saved, we did. This is what He was doing, He was saving us. **40** But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? **41** And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. How is it that he is able to see this and Herod, Pilate and the chief priests weren't? **42** And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. **43** And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. **44** And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. That is pretty weird. Recently we saw some people on the West coast at mid day and the sun was darkened due to the fires. They described it as "apocalyptic". **45** And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. This age began with the veil of the temple being rent. It signifies the flesh being rent so that the way to the Holy of Holies would be opened to us. This is what the Lord had to go through in

order to open the way for us to meet with God. Jesus is the way, no man cometh to the Father but by Him. **46** And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. It seems trivial to me to hear anyone claiming that they are in the right and that others have wronged them after watching the way in which Jesus was crucified. **47** Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. **48** And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned. Jesus didn't just rend the veil to the temple, it is as though all of flesh was torn in two. You have those who are vehemently railing against him on one side, and those who smite their breast in lament on the other. One thief is mocking, the other is believing. Pilate is doing whatever the loudest people in the mob shout, whereas the centurion can see this was a righteous man. **49** And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things. **50** And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: **51** (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. So although the chief priests and scribes really bear a lot of judgement here, not all do. There are still good men and just men who were counselors of the people. **52** This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. **53** And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. **54** And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. **55** And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. **56** And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment. Once again we can see this is the thing, Jesus is Lord. That is what this age is about. That is why the Satanic kingdom has become so riled up and vehement. The ruler of this world is about to be cast out. You get to choose which one you want, there is still time, but the opportunity to choose will soon be over.