

## Who Is JESUS? | Luke 22:67-71 & 23:1-3

*Last week, we looked at a couple of questions that Pilate asked of the Jews:*

Matthew 27:21 - The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas.

*“Who Gets To Live” & “Who Gets Crucified” was the first question.*

*Then Pilate asked a question that every man has to answer:*

*“What shall I do with JESUS?”*

Matthew 27:22 - Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified.

*So JESUS would be crucified – as the anger of the crowd grew, putting pressure on Pilate.*

*But not everyone who looked upon JESUS would think HE deserved death.*

*Of course the disciples didn't think HE was worthy of death, along with Mary Magdalene.*

*Pilate didn't see JESUS as a threat & his wife confirmed that.*

*Although there may be several others who saw JESUS differently, I'd like to point out just a few of them.*

*The title of my message today is “Who Is JESUS?”.*

### Luke 22:67-71 & 23:1-3

*This was a question Caiaphas, the High Priest, wanted the answer to: “Who Is JESUS?”.*

Luke 22:67 - Art thou the Christ? tell us. And he said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe:

*JESUS tells Caiaphas: “You can't handle the truth!”*

*So now the entire group wants to know & asks the question again?*

Luke 22:70 - Then said they all, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am.

*But just like Caiaphas, the council couldn't handle the truth.*

*They just couldn't see JESUS as the Messiah, the Son of GOD or the Coming King!*



So now, JESUS is brought before Pilate & he is asking the same question: **“Who Is JESUS?”**

Luke 23:3 - And Pilate asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answered him and said, **Thou sayest it.**

*Although Pilate wasn't quite sure who JESUS was, he certainly didn't think HE was worthy of death.*

*There were a few others who saw JESUS differently.*

1. **THE ROMAN SOLDIERS** – Matthew 27:27-31

✝ Matthew 27:31 ~ And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify *him*.

*The Roman Soldiers didn't see JESUS as just another body to condemn.*

*They saw JESUS a joke & so they belittled HIM.*

2. **SIMON OF CYRENE**

✝ Matthew 27:32 ~ And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross.

*Simon would see JESUS as just a criminal condemned to death.*

*But he would be the first to embrace JESUS at the cross.*

*He would also be the first to be covered in the actual blood of JESUS.*

3. **THE THIEVES ON THE CROSS**

✝ Luke 23:39 ~ And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

*One thief would taunt JESUS & tempt HIM to set them both free.*

✝ Luke 23:40 ~ But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

*The other thief recognized JESUS was innocent.*

*One saw JESUS as a way of escape, one saw JESUS as a way of hope.*



#### 4. JOSEPH OF ARIMETHAEA

- ✠ Matthew 27:59 ~ And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,
- ✠ Matthew 27:60 ~ And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

*Joseph saw JESUS as someone who needed to be honored.*

*Yes, JESUS is the Messiah!*

*Yes, JESUS is the Son of GOD!*

*Yes, JESUS is the Risen Lamb!*

*But “Who Is JESUS” to you?*

*What happens to you for eternity, will depend on how YOU look at JESUS & how you treat HIM!*

*Do you question HIS deity?*

*Do you mock HIM with the life you live or honor HIM with how you live?*

*Do you honor HIS death?*

*Do you see HIS crucifixion as a sacrifice for you sins?*

*Today, JESUS wants you to see HIM as YOUR Saviour – voluntarily!*

*One day soon, JESUS is coming back as KING & every eye will see HIM as such!*

*CONCLUSION: How do YOU see JESUS?*

