

## **“FOLLOWING JESUS: THE PILATE CHRONICLES”**

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### **1. THE PASSOVER CULMINATES WITH THE NEW COMMAND: JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, YOU ALSO ARE TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**

**A. AND YET, JESUS' HEART IS SORROWFUL.**

**B. EVERYONE DESERTED HIM AND FLED.**

### **2. AFTER THE CHIEF PRIESTS ARRESTED JESUS, HIS “TRIAL” BEGAN.**

**A.** Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” <sup>62</sup>And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” (Mark 14:61b-62)

**B. THE ACCUSERS NEEDED THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD TO CARRY OUT JESUS' SENTENCE.**

### **3. JESUS STANDS TRIAL, AGAIN, BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE.**

**A. NO NEED FOR THE DETAILS, THE DEVIL IS IN THOSE.**

Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world.” (John 18:36)

“You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. <sup>15</sup>Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. <sup>16</sup>I will therefore punish and release him.” (Luke 23:14-16)

**B. WHEN IT COMES TO JESUS, WE NEED THE DETAILS.**

i. He was flogged. (John 19:1)

ii. He was crowned and adorned in purple. (John 19:2)

iii. He was mocked and slapped. (John 19:3)

iv. He was still to be crucified. (John 19:6)

**C. PILATE THOUGHT HE HAD POWER OVER JESUS AND THE CROWD. HE WAS WRONG.**

Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above.” (John 19:11a)

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.” (John 19:12)

### **4. THEN THEY CRUCIFIED HIM.**

**A. THERE WAS NO DREAM TO KEEP ALIVE. NO MOVEMENT TO KEEP GOING.**

**B. EVERYONE EXPECTED JESUS TO DO WHAT DEAD PEOPLE USUALLY DO.**

## **GOING DEEPER**

1. Read John 19:10–12. What do these two verses reveal about the nature of power? Why does Jesus seem to have greater authority than Pilate even though He's in a position of weakness?
2. Throughout the story, we watch Jesus surrender: He didn't fight in the garden, He was silent when the Pharisees questioned Him, and He didn't defend himself to Pilate. How hard is giving up control for you? What keeps you from trusting God and surrendering more to him?
3. Jesus' crucifixion surprised even His closest followers. In what ways does Jesus continue to defy our expectations of Him? Does that ever make it difficult for you to follow Him?