

## Deciding Stuff: (Perhaps) A Lesson from Pilate

### Who was Pilate

- Prefect (Administrator) of Judaea, Samaria and Idumaea under the Roman Emperor Tiberius
- Probably from Central Italy
- Served from 26 AD to 36 AD
- Headquarters at Caesarea (only visited Jerusalem on special occasions)
- History records him as a bad guy
- History/Legend says he committed suicide in 39 AD at the direction of the Emperor Caligula

### The Situation

Jesus is arrested

- John 18:31 → Jewish “judges” could not implement death penalty; Only the Roman leader could do that

### Pilate Knows

(What Criteria did Pilate use to decide)  
John 18:30 → the Jews’ “Circular Logic”  
Matthew 27:11-14 → Jesus’ demeanor  
Matthew 27:18/Mark 15:10 → Envy  
Luke 23:4 → “No Basis”

### The Tension Builds

Luke 23:6-12 → To Herod and Back/Dynamics  
Luke 23:13-15 → Still “No Basis”  
Luke 23:22 → Why!  
John 19:12 → “No Friend of Caesar”  
Matthew 27:19 → Pilate’s Wife Weighs In

### An “Out”

Luke 23:22 → Punish and Release  
Mark 15:6-11 → Jesus or Barabbas

### Out of Options

- Matthew 27:24-26 → “Let his blood be on us and on our children
- John 19:15-16 → “We have no king but Caesar”

Matthew 27:11-26

Mark 15:1-15

Luke 23:1-25

John 18:28-40; 19:1-16