Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

April 14, 2019
Life’s Biggest Question:
What Should I Do with Jesus?

• (Mark 15:1-15 NIV) Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. (2) "Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate. "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. (3) The chief priests accused him of many things. (4) So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of." (5) But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.
Life’s Biggest Question:
What Should I Do with Jesus?

• 6) Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. (7) A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. (8) The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. (9) "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate,
Life’s Biggest Question:
What Should I Do with Jesus?

• (10) knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. (11) But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. (12) "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. (13) "Crucify him!" they shouted. (14) "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" (15) Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

- The Week Of The Passion Of Christ
- The Passover
- The Palm Sunday Hosanna Parade
- The Garden Of Gethsemane
- The Betrayal Of Jesus By Judas
- The Sanhedrin Thought That They Had Jesus Where They Wanted Him
- They Brought Jesus Before The Court Of The One Decision Maker Who Could Actually Grant Their Desire For A Crucifixion: Pilate
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• **Pontius Pilate**—a former slave who, through marriage and political maneuvering, became a Governor.

• He Wants To Keep The Peace At All Costs -- Even At The Cost Of His Own Personal Integrity

• **Integrity** Will Always Be Tested
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

Sources Of The Test Of Integrity:

- The People Around Us
- An Unknown Future
- Money – Position – Or Power
- Satan Lies:
  - Thinking You Deserve More
  - Everybody Is Doing It
  - It’s Only A Little Thing
  - God Will Understand
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

_Choices In The Test Of Integrity_

1. Do The Wrong Thing
2. Do The Right Thing In The Wrong Way
3. Do The Right Thing In The Right Way
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

The Benefits Of Integrity

• Character
• Clear Conscience
• Intimacy With God
• Elevation (God Will Lift You Up)
• Evangelism
Life’s Biggest Question:  
What Should I Do with Jesus?

5 QUESTIONS THAT PILATE ASKS

1. (V.2) "Are you the king of the Jews?"
2. (V.4) "Aren't you going to answer?"
3. (V.9) "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?"
4. (V.12) "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?"
5. (V.14) "Why (should He have to die) ? What crime has he committed?"
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

- In This Trial Two Things are Happening:
  - Christ Appearing Before Pilate
  - Pilate Appearing Before Christ

- Pilate The Earthly Judge
- Before Jesus Christ The Judge Of All The Earth
Life’s Biggest Question:
What Should I Do with Jesus?

- This Could Not Have Happened If Jesus Christ Had Not Allowed It

- Jesus Went Through This Out Of Love For People

- That Everyone Who Believes On Him -- Might Be Saved!
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• The Next Trial That Jesus Appears In -- He Will Be Sitting On The Throne -- Things Will Be Vastly Different!

• (Phil 2:9-11 NIV) "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place . . . that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow . . . and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord"

• Rest Assured: God Is Still In Control. Jesus Holds The Highest Place And Will Return In Glory
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

- **Pilate’s Situation Is Not Easy: He Is Going To Have To Make Some Very Difficult Determinations Regarding Jesus**

**Compounding The Decisions: The Incredible Attitude Of Jesus**

- **Jesus Is Unique -- Quiet – Calm – Confident**
- He Strongly Claimed To Be King
- **His Kingdom Was A Different Type of Kingdom**
- His Reign Would Be In The Realm Of The Spiritual And Eternal, Not The Physical And Natural
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• Pilate Is Dealing With The Advice Of His Wife

• God Spoke To Her In A Dream, Regarding The Righteousness And Innocence Of Jesus’ (Her Advice: Leave Him Alone!)
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

*Pilate Is Also Dealing With The Anger Of The Jews*

• Crucify him! Crucify him!“ – They Won’t Be Appeased

*They Falsely Accused Jesus Of Three Crimes:*

• (1) Encouraging The People Not To Pay Their Taxes To Rome
• (2) Claiming He Was A King Who Was Taking Over From Rome
• (3) Causing Riots All Over The Countryside
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• *This Same Spirit Of False Accusation Against Christ Still Runs Rampant In Our World Today:*

• *False Statements And Exaggerations That Are So Filled With Hate --Enemies Of The Cross Continue to Condemn Christ (And Christians) Today*

• “The world will not tolerate God among us. Because --It cannot imagine love incarnate.” Life Application Commentary
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• The Question That Really Tears Pilate Apart Is The Question That He Asks Recorded In Verse 12...

• (12) "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?"
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• *It Is A Personal Question: What Shall “I” Do With Jesus?*

• A Decision The Proud Judge Would Rather Avoid

• The Pressures And Forces That Press Upon His Mind Are Extreme

• His Notable Prisoner Is Barabbas

• *Pilate Would Give The Crowd A Choice: An Insurrectionist, Guilty Of Murder, Or Jesus?*
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

- *When Confronted With Jesus Or Barabbas* -- They Chose Barabbas

- (I) They Chose Lawlessness Instead Of Law
- (II) They Chose War Instead Of Peace
- (III) They Chose Hatred And Violence Instead Of Love.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT).
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

- **Pilate Did What He Said He Would Do -- He Released Barabbas-- And Then Had Jesus Flogged And Handed Over To Be Crucified**

- **The Object Of Flogging Was To Cause As Much Pain And Suffering As Possible.**

- "See! The Man!" -- **He Was A Man – The Only Real Man On That Scene**

- **Jesus Was Silent Because There Was Nothing To Be Said.**
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• The Final Decision Of What Shall “I” Do With Jesus... Was One That Pilate Had To Make – No One Else Could Make It For Him

• Everything He Attempted To Put Off This Decision – Did Not Work

• In The End -- Pilate Crucified Jesus In Order To Keep His Job.

• Pilate Feared Caesar More Than He Feared God.
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• *This Is A Question That Demands Action ... What Shall I “Do”*

• He Tried To Escape His Responsibility In This Decision

• He Wanted To Establish A Policy Of Neutrality

Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• The Truth Is -- God Accepts No Compromise Concerning His Son, Jesus Christ

• Pilate Shows Us That A Person Either Stands For Him -- Or -- Against Him

• There Is No Neutral Ground
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

*It Is A Question About Jesus:*

- Pilate’s Other Decisions in Life Were Dwarfed By This One

*We Have No Other Decision As Important As This One*

- All Others Decisions Are Temporary (Of This World) --- This Decision Has Eternal Consequences!
Life’s Biggest Question:
What Should I Do with Jesus?

This Is A Question The Whole Human Race Must Answer
• It Is A Question About Jesus.
• What Are You Going To Do With Christ? The Creator. The Savior. The Judge!

• We Must Choose Between Christ And The Crowd!

• What Will You Do With Jesus?
Life’s Biggest Question: What Should I Do with Jesus?

• This Is A Question That Demands Action
• A Question That Is Really About You & Jesus

• We Choose Either To Go With Him – Or -- The Crowd

• The Question Is: What Are You Going To Do? What Will You Do With Jesus?