JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Matthew 27:1–31

Key Verse: 27:11

1. Early in the morning, what did all the religious leaders do, and why? (1,2)
2. How was Judas affected by this, and why? (3–4a) What did the religious leaders tell him, and why? (4b) What did he do in the end, and what should we learn from it? (5; 2Co7:10) How does his story warn us? (24:9,10; 10:21,22) In light of this, what positive direction should we have? (Ro12:10; 1Th5:11,15)
3. What happened with the betrayal money, what significance did Matthew see in this, and why? (6–10)
4. What did the governor ask, and why? (11a) Review how Matthew has been showing the kind of king is Jesus: 1:23; 2:6; 4:23; 5:3–10; 6:6–13; 8:3,17; 9:12,13,36; 11:29; 12:18–21; 17:2,5; 19:14; 20:28,30,34; 21:5,9; 22:44; 25:31,32; 26:39). How did Jesus respond, and why? (11b; 26:64a) Why was Pilate so amazed at Jesus’ silence? (12–14)
5. What was the governor’s custom at the festival? (15) What option did he give the crowd this time, and why? (16–18) What message did Pilate’s wife send him, and why would the author tell us this? (19)
6. Why did the crowd ask for Barabbas? (20) What did Pilate ask, and what did the crowd repeatedly shout? (21–23) What did Pilate do and say, and why? (24) What did the crowd say? (25) Why does the author emphasize this? What did Pilate finally do? (26)
7. How did the soldiers mock Jesus’ kingship? (27–31; compare with 26:67,68) Why does Matthew conclude Jesus’ trial with this scene?