

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

The Gospel of John

John 18:28–40

Read John 18:28–40.

John doesn't include Jesus' trial before the Jewish ruling authorities but instead gives us a detailed account of his trial before Pilate, the Roman ruler of the Jews.

1. Why don't the Jewish authorities enter the palace? (v. 28;  * Acts 10:28a)

2. The Passover feast commemorates God's deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt (Ex. 12:25–27).
 - a. What role did the Passover lamb play? (Ex. 12:21–23)

 - b. As the Jews take such pains to keep themselves ceremonially clean, what are they missing? (Jn. 1:29; I Cor. 5:7b;  I Pet. 1:18–19)

3. The Jewish leaders were wrapped up in their ritual observances, but were unable to see the true Passover Lamb. How do you sometimes fall into the trap of going through the rituals of religion and miss Jesus?

4. Why do the Jewish authorities involve the Roman governor, Pilate? (vv. 29–31)

5. The Law of Israel prescribed stoning as the primary method for carrying out the death penalty, but the Roman method was often crucifixion. Why does Jesus have to die on a cross (v. 32)?
 Jn. 3:14–15; 12:32–33 ( Num. 21:4–9)

Gal. 3:13

Heb. 9:22

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

6. What is Pilate trying to discover as he questions Jesus? (vv. 33–35)
7. Jesus acknowledges to Pilate that he is a king (v. 37).
 - a. What does he say about his kingdom? (v. 36)
 - b. Based on the Jesus you have met in the gospel of John, how does his kingdom differ from the kingdoms of this world?
8. What is the answer to Pilate’s question, “What is truth?” (v. 38)? (Jn. 1:14; 14:6)
9. Jesus is the King who speaks truth, and “everyone on the side of truth listens to [him]” (v. 37).
 - a. What truth has he been speaking into your heart recently?
 - b. How does listening to him affect your life?
10. What verdict does Pilate pronounce? (v. 38b)
11. When the Jewish authorities ask for Barabbas to be released instead of Jesus, what are they actually doing? (Acts 3:13–15)