

“Cross Examination” John 19:18-24

As we have seen, the death blow to Pontius Pilate’s attempt to maintain law and order was delivered with the Jewish leader’s statement in John 19:12 If you let this man go, you’re no friend of Caesar.

And that’s all it took to turn a courageous battle warrior into a moral weakling when it came to principle, so the issue of Jesus’ guilt or innocence was lost in Pilate’s dilemma.

The Cross is the place where Jesus had to submit or there would have been no salvation for man; therefore, the Cross was His objective and it represented His Father’s authority.

But our Lord’s obedience was not simply to the Cross itself but to His substitutionary spiritual death on the Cross.

Although Jesus knew that there on that cross, He’d be judged for the sins of the world;

He was still willing to be submissive to the point of His spiritual and physical death(s).

The Lord Jesus’ 7 statements from the Cross:

1. “Father forgive them for they know not what they do;” Luke 23:34; (words of forgiveness).2.

“Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me Paradise;” Luke 23:43; (words of salvation).3.

“Woman behold your son; behold your mother;”

John 19:26-27; (words of relationship).4. “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

Matthew 27:46; (words of Abandonment).5. “I thirst” John 19:28 (words of distress).

6. “It is finished” John 19:30; (words of triumph). 7. “Father, into Your Hands, I commit My Spirit” Luke 23:46; (words of reunion).

God has actually made a way for all of us to stand at the foot of the Cross of Christ and that’s by studying the Bible!

The Lord Jesus became associated with the sins of two thieves as well as the sins of everyone else who has ever lived.

On the Cross, it was customary to write the name of the criminal and the crime for which he was being executed over his head.

Pontius Pilate has now fully rejected his only hope

Roman law stated that at the site of every crucifixion, the offender’s name and crime will be noted in Latin but the Lord Jesus Christ’s Cross had NO CRIME written on it!

No civilization is ever better than its collective spiritual life.

Without exception, religion always distorts the truth.

Although many people wished to kill Jesus prior to the Cross, angelic protection along with the Roman guard prevented that from happening.

When someone is wearing five garments in the ancient world and proud Roman soldiers are gambling for one of them, this tells us that the Lord Jesus was most certainly well-dressed, yet He was crucified naked to further shame Him.