



# Pilate Before Jesus

## Mark 15:1-15

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### REALLY EASY WARM-UP QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever been “between a rock and a hard place”? What were the circumstances and what did you do about it?
2. Or, determine who can say the following the fastest: *“Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked. If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?”*

### PILATE’S PREQUEL 15:1

1. What is significant about the time and location of the Sanhedrin’s “consultation”?
2. Why was it important for the Sanhedrin to hold this “consultation” before taking Jesus to Pilate?

### PILATE’S PERSPECTIVE 15:2-5

1. What are Pilate’s responsibilities as the Roman Procurator of Judea?
2. How did the Sanhedrin embellish their accusation (cf. Luke 23:2b)? Why?
3. As the Sanhedrin piled on accusation after accusation Jesus remained silent. Why?
4. How did Jesus’ response affect Pilate? Why? (HINT: If Jesus was a “would be” insurrectionist Messiah like all the others, how might He have responded to Pilate?)

### PILATE’S PROBLEM 15:6-8

1. What was Pilate’s problem?
2. How did the Sanhedrin (and crowd) add to Pilate’s problem?

### PILATE’S PROPOSAL 15:9-14

1. Why do you think the crowd responded with such hatred for Jesus?
2. Why do you think Pilate underestimated the hatred of the Sanhedrin for Jesus?

### PILATE’S PUNT 15:15

1. How did Pilate punt?
2. Why did Pilate punt?

### PROCESSING ALL THAT...

1. What does it mean that they’ve got the wrong man on trial?
2. These days, what does it mean for you to know that Jesus isn’t on trial for Himself, but for you? (consider also 1 Peter 3:18)
3. These days, what does it mean for you to know that Jesus “gets” you? (consider also Hebrews 4:14-16)