

Composed Omnipotence

John 19:7-12

7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

8 Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid,

9 and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?"

11 Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

12 From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

I remember when I was a teenager I used to use dynamite to blast tree stumps, I always did get a bang out of that. But what I remember most was the first day I remember them company delivering about a thousand pounds of dynamite to our house, well not to our house. You don't keep something like that in your house. They could not put it in the shed where it belonged so they backed up to a fence and threw the 50 lb boxes over the fence onto the ground. And they lived to tell about it.

You see dynamite is made by mixing Nitroglycerin with Diatomaceous earth to make it more stable. Without that invention by Alfred Nobel, nitroglycerin was very unstable and was responsible to killing a lot of people and was one of the first substance banned in California.

Jesus is sort of like that. He has been terribly mistreated and yet He restrains from destroying all those involved. They had no idea of who they were dealing with. They were like handling nitroglycerin and did not even know it.

Pilate's superstition kicks in when the Jews reveal their true case against Jesus. That He claimed to be the Son of God, thus making Himself equal with God.

For Pilate this was more probable than for the Jews who were controlled by an insufficient knowledge of the Scriptures. They could not accept the idea of a triune God. Pilate was a Roman and they were much into the mythology of the Greeks with gods behaving very much like men. For them god was more like the super heroes of the modern movies. So for Pilate it was believable that Jesus was a god or a son of a god.

This made Pilate a little skittish, especially since his wife had sent word to have nothing to do with this just man since she had had a dream about him.

Mt 27:19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.

So let us look at this passage.

I. The real reason

- A. 7 The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."
- B. Jesus had without a doubt claimed to be God's peculiar Son, His only begotten Son.
1. Joh 5:18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.
 2. Joh 8:58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." 59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. 30 "I and My Father are one." 31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"
 3. Joh 10:33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."
 4. Mt 26:63 But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" 64 Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." 65 Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! 66 "What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death."

II. Pilate's fear

- A. 8 Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, 9 and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.
- B. Where are You from?
- C. Isa 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

III. The real power

A. 10 Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" 11 Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above.

B. The greater sin

1. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

IV. Pilate's hopeless attempt

A. 12 From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

If Jesus does not explode into your life, it does not mean that He is not concerned about you.

If Jesus does not explode into your life, it does not mean that He is powerless.

Jesus has left you with the same choices that Pilate and the Jews had back then.

How will you decide.