

(1). "The Impossible Imperative"

Introd:- (1). Pity Poor Pontius Pilate! He had a wife who dreamed dreams! I once saw an artists's portrayal he entitled "The Dream of Pilate's Wife". It showed her lying across a bed..evidently restless in body and disturbed in expression...and above and around her the vision of a glorious kingdom...a shining throne...on it this Jesus of Galilee...and BEFORE HIM..IN ABJECT TERROR..HER HUSBAND

(2). Is that what she dreamed about? No man today knows.. but perhaps..something like that. What we do know is that she awoke..fearfully disturbed..and sent a message at once...a hastily scribbled note. A faithful servant; under her urgent bidding..dared to enter solemn Judgment Hall..in place called the Pavement..in Heb. "Gabatha".. Delivered this imperative cry..Matt.27:19.

I. What would you have done? Dismissed as woman's dream?

(a). Pilate didn't. Perhaps knew something about woman's intuitions..or per. that wife had some spiritual insight. TRIED HIS BEST to get Jesus Christ off his hands. c/f

~~manly~~ In John 19:12 we read "Pilate sought to release him". Brought Jesus bef. crowd..with crown of thorns and purple ~~robe~~.. "Behold the man"..as though to evoke some pity.. Sent him away to Herod, only to get Him back again

Scourged him..as more than sufficient punishment for the nothing He had done. Gave three clear verdicts of "Not guilty"..Lk.23:4..14..22. Offered an alternative that he felt mob could not refuse...Matt.27:15-18, 21.

(b). And a final act..vs.24. Tried finally to wash hands of whole matter..be rid forever of this man Jesus. HE COULDN'T DO IT! His wife's command contained a impossible imperative! Even after washed hands..he did

a very strange thing. Might expect shut self up in castle of Antonia..take a drink..aspirin..call for jazz combo... NOT AT ALL!..John 19:19-22. WHY BOTHER DO THAT? Strangel impelled..to write last protest against this horror..crime Possibly even went to cross..and saw it done.

II The Impossible Imperative is still with us today.

(a). From that day Pilate's life dogged by disaster..and one day ended own life. AND THEN? He met Jesus again. Or will meet Him when hell gives up its inhabitants..to judgment.

(b). How many thru. ages..sought to have nothing to do with this Man? Some curse Him, as thief on cross..But multitudes more like Peter.."Depart from me"..or like devils.."What have we to do with thee?" "Let us alone"

Today..business man in some shady deal.."Nothing to do with Him"...Someone snared in evil deeds..immorality.."Leave me alone". Church-goer..Mr. Religion himself..proud of what he thinks merits favour of God.."Don't talk to me about Jesus.. His blood shed for my sin..MY sin? I am good enough".
IT WAS SUCH MEN THAT CRUCIFIED THE SAVIOUR..tried wash ha

Conclus:- 1. May God teach us all how impossible it is to have nothing to do with Jesus. Listen to God's Word:- Acts 17:30-

31. Staggering fact! You..I..will meet Him some day..with no way of avoiding it. See again:- Rev. 20:11-12.

2. Inescapable fact is that EVERY HUMAN BEING WHO HAS EVER LIVED..WILL SOME DAY COME FACE TO FACE WITH JESUS CHRIST.

a. Are you a Christian..born again..washed in His blood from every sin? Rec'd Him very personally as Saviour? YOU AND I WILL STAND AT HIS JUDGMENT SEAT..TO GIVE COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP OR TIME, TALENT, MONEY, LIFE ITSELF. ROM 14:12

b. Are you not a Christian? You will meet Him..at that great judgment throne...LOST..LOST..condemned. Meet Him we must. "Have nothing to do with that just man"..is impossible imperative Yours is choice. MEET HIM NOW..AS SAVIOUR...OR THEN AS AN OFFENDED JUDGE. Come. Gospel. Jesus now - Jesus - "We made a mistake never before"

Come to Him now as Saviour - for He's coming again as

the great + Eternal + Dreadful Judge of all men -

Plus: - Crossing the bridge

11 COR 5:10

Dawson Creek Radio Station - June 7/71 } Highland B. Barnh -
Arrowwood - Mar 29/70 (Early Men) } (Kindergarten) July 1973

La la Beebe Camp - Youth Retreat - Sept 26/69

Chinese Pentecostal YPS - Calgary - Aug 2/69

Brentwood Bap - Calgary - July 13/69

Meadow Lake, SK - Dec 25/68

Bochman - Apr 14/68

Whitstone YT - Dec 18/66 - (dedic.)

Highland M.B - Calgary - Aug 7/66

Inverfail July 11/65

Peace River - June 2/65

Fairview May 28/65

La Glace May 24/65

Wetaskiwin - Calgary Bap - Apr 14/65 - with choir

Prince George (open air) - July 25/71

Matt. 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."

Luke 23:4, ~~14:22~~ "Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man.
14 "Pilate said unto them, ~~Ye~~ have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him.

22. "And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him."

Matt. 27:15-18, 21. "Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner whom they would. And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.
THEY SAID, BARABBAS."

vs. 24 "When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it."

John 19:19-22 "And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but the he said, I am King of the Jews. Pilate answered, What I have written I have written."

Acts 17:30-31 "And the times of this ignorance God winked at: but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Rev. 20:11-12. "And the devil that deceived them was
cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the
beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented
day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great
white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face
the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was
found no place for them." And I saw the dead,
small and great, stand before God; and the books were
opened; and another book was opened, which is the
book of life; and the dead were judged out of those
things that were written in the books..."