

**Witnesses to the Christ-Week 5**  
**Pontius Pilate**  
**John 19: 1-16**

*“I saw a woman today who finally became hard as wood all over.”*  
--Dr Guy Patin 1692

Pontius Pilate had a case of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus encounters Pilate on several levels.

**1st as a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**2nd as an \_\_\_\_\_.**

**3rd as a \_\_\_\_\_.**

Question Time:

**What’s your \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

**How do you view \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

The court is still in session today.

+++++

**Message Application:**

One of John’s most amazing statements is “the Word became flesh” (John 1:14). The Word didn’t change into flesh, morph into flesh, or transition into flesh. If

the Word had changed, morphed, or transitioned into flesh, He would no longer be God. But remaining as He was, He became as we are. Remaining as He was—God—Christ became as we are—flesh.

John drives this point home when he writes about Jesus on trial before Pontius Pilate. Pilate grasps for straws. He's caught between a rock and a hard place. Instead of doing what is right, Pilate has Jesus' flesh ripped, shredded, torn, dressed in purple, and crowned with thorns. Then he brings Jesus out before the crowd and says, "Behold the man!" (John 19:5). The Latin is famously *Ecce Homo*. "Behold the man!" Here is the man. Flesh. Flesh and blood. Flesh and blood and a heart. Flesh and blood and a heart and a beaten body. That's also God we're talking about. The God who gets crucified. The God who bleeds. The God who dies. The God who is buried. The God who did it all for us.

We can't forget this! The choice we make today is not simply if Jesus is guilty or innocent. Pilate could recognize that even with his sinner's heart. The choice dives deeper than that. The choice is between denying Jesus is God or not. Is he King or not to you? Is Jesus your Lord?

Meditate on the following passage then ask yourself, "where do I fit into Jesus' Kingdom?"

Ezekiel 11:17–21

2 Corinthians 4:1–6

John 19:1–16

Ask yourself, "What can I do to live as a servant of the King according to the above passages?"

Peace & Grace to You this week!

Wm. Lyons