



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 18:28-38
From Sermon 4.27.25

Read *John 18:28-38*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: John has concluded his account of Jesus' religious trial and now focuses on the civil trial. This exchange with the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, is profound and fascinating. It's crystal clear that, in the end, Pilate did not find Jesus guilty of anything, much less a capital offense. The consequences teach us many lessons and draws many similarities to us, to our day, and to the depravity of man. The Jewish leaders exemplify the deadliness of false religions.

1. While John only records one religious trial and one civil trial, Jesus actually endured four trials—2 religious and 2 civic. Was the purpose ever to determine the guilt or innocence of Jesus? Did it matter what evidence was produced or not produced? No. They were going to get Jesus to the cross by any means. the trials weren't about Jesus, but the world, sin, self-preservation, and self-rule. See also *Psalms 2:1-4*

2. Why would the Jewish leaders not enter Pilate's compound? They feared Gentile defilement, which might disqualify them to participate in the Passover festivities.

Now read *Matthew 15:11-20*. What actually disqualified them? Their sinful hearts. What came out of their mouth that flows from the heart. They defiled the Passover without ever stepping foot in Pilate's court. See also *1 Corinthians 5:7*

3. Note and Discuss: The Jewish leader's hypocritical citing of the Law of God.

10 Commandment Quiz:

- 1) No other gods before Me
- 2) No graven images and bowing to them
- 3) Do not take the Lord's Name in vain
- 4) Keep the Sabbath
- 5) Honor your father and mother
- 6) Do not murder
- 7) Do not commit adultery
- 8) Do not steal
- 9) Do not lie (bear false witness)
- 10) Do not covet

4. What commandment(s) had they broken? Certainly #9, on the way to breaking #6.

5. Before it's over, what commandments will they break? Pretty much all of them. Discuss.

6. When their case against Christ before Pilate begins to fail due to religious crimes, what do the leaders resort to? Making up civil law violations. Making Pilate fear an insurrection. See *Luke 23:2*