



# Morningside Church

## Sermon Discussion Guide

**Title: Who is Jesus to You?**

**Date: March 15, 2026**

**Scripture Text: John 19:1-30**

### **Notes:**

The hour has come! Jesus spent time preparing His disciples for this moment. It is time for Him to fulfill the purpose for which He came to earth. Because of sin, our relationship with God was severed. The penalty for our sins needed to be paid. For payment to be made in full required a perfect individual who knew no sin to become sin for us ([2 Cor. 5:21](#)). The result was we became the righteousness of God in Him. The means for Jesus to pay our sin debt was crucifixion. Why would Jesus go to such trouble for us? Because of His love for us ([Rom. 5:8](#)). So, as Jesus sacrifices Himself for a lost world, the question must be asked, is He a lunatic, liar, or Lord?

#### **I. The Interrogation of Pilate - LUNATIC**

The interrogation of Jesus began back in chapter 18 as the High Priest Caiaphas brought Jesus to Pilate. The Jewish religious leadership wanted to kill Jesus, but did not have the authority to do so, so they sought out the Roman Governor Pilate to convince him to carry out the execution. Pilate attempted to find wrongdoing, but three times declared he found no guilt in Jesus. Yet Pilate succumbs to the desires of the people, specifically the chief priests who insisted Pilate crucify Him. Even though Pilate had the authority to release Jesus, he gives in to the Jews demands to crucify Jesus. He wasn't interested in justice but pleasing the people.

- In [vs. 8](#), once Pilate hears the accusation ([vs. 7](#)), he becomes more afraid. What about this accusation would make Pilate fearful?
- Even in the midst of not finding any guilt in Jesus, he tells Jesus in [vs. 10](#) that he has the authority to release Jesus if he wanted. How does Jesus respond in [vs. 11](#)?
- What does that say about God's control, even in difficult circumstances?
- When might be times we are too interested in pleasing people instead of pleasing God?
- How can we keep God's priorities and not get drawn in to appeasing others instead?

#### **II. The Accusation of the Jews - LIAR**

Early in the ministry of Jesus, the Jewish religious leadership felt threatened. Jesus condemned their leadership. The burden they placed on the people was never God's plan. Jesus threatened their authority and traditions. Their solution was to have Him killed. The evidence that Jesus was the Messiah was overwhelming. But they rejected that fact and anyone who supported Him. They were not interested in truth, but maintaining their traditions, routines, and influence.

- The chief priests were so motivated to have Jesus killed they state in [vs. 15](#) that they "have no king but Caesar". What does that say about how they had lost their way?



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### Notes:

- What are examples when we might lose our way, being so motivated by what we want that we miss what God wants?
- How can routine or tradition supersede what God wants in our lives?
- How can we maintain keeping God's priorities over our own?

### **III. Examination of Evidence - LORD**

The Jews nor the Romans were interested in the evidence of who Jesus was. But to examine the evidence leaves no doubt that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed the Messiah. He is Lord of all!

The Apostle John shares the details of the crucifixion to support the evidence already presented of who Jesus was.

- [Vs. 17](#): "He went out", Is 53:7, "He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth."
- [Vs. 17](#): "bearing His own cross", Gen. 22:6, "Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together."
- [Vs. 17](#): out of the city "to the place called Place of a Skull", Ex. 29:14, "But the flesh of the bull and its hide and its refuse, you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering." / Heb. 13:11, "For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside the camp."
- [Vs. 18](#), "crucified Him ... with two other men", Is. 53:12, "Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors."
- [Vs. 23-24](#), tunic was seamless, like that worn by the high priest, Ex. 28:31-32, "You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue. There shall be an opening at its top in the middle of it; around its opening there shall be a binding of woven work, like the opening of a coat of mail, so that it will not be torn."

This along with the evidence presented of Jesus' teaching and miracles all pointed to Jesus' Lordship! If the Romans or the Jews were interested in truth, they would have recognized who Jesus was.

- Who do you say Jesus is?
- How would you describe who Jesus is to a lost person?
- What does it mean to serve Jesus as Lord?