

THREE QUESTIONS YOU MUST ANSWER

Matt. 27:15-26

Intro: Life is full of questions,

Some we hear often. Now, some people tend to tense up when they are faced with a test or when they are expected to answer questions.

Today we are going to look at three questions that Pilate asked the multitudes during the trial of Jesus.

Pilate asked the people who were there that day three questions that still need to be asked and answered today.

How you answer these questions could determine how and where you spend the rest of your life as well as your eternity.

I. A QUESTION OF DESIRES – V.21

A. Ill. The context of the question.

B. The question could as easily be asked - "**What type of life do you want to live?**" When you are offered a choice between Jesus and any other alternative, you are making a choice that will affect everyday of your life! Depending upon how you answer, you will experience one of two lifestyles.

C. **A Life of Sin and Rebellion Toward God** - Ill. The lifestyle of one outside Jesus.

D. **A life out of control** - Eph. 2:1-3 "And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; ²Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: ³Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."

1. **A life of no peace** - Isa. 48:22 *There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.* (Ill. Something missing)

2. **A life of no lasting joy** - (Ill. Some pleasures, but none last.)

3. **A life of condemnation** - John 3:18 **He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.** - God does hold man accountable!
4. **A life of hopelessness** - (Nothing waiting for you but an eternity in Hell!)
- E. **A Life of Salvation and the Blessing of God** - The lifestyle of a person who chooses Jesus.
 1. **A life under control** - Gal. 5:16 - With God in charge.
 2. **A life of peace** - John 14:27; Phil. 4:7 - Total contentment is found in Jesus - Psa. 34:8
 3. **A life of absolute joy** - (Not perfection, but contentment - Phil 4:11)
 4. **A life free from condemnation** - Rom.8:1 (Ill. Sin, for the believer has been done away with.
 5. **A life of hope** - 1 Pet.1:3-5 - There is a better place waiting on the believer.

II. A QUESTION OF DESTINIES – V. 22

- A. What you do with Jesus determines where you spend your eternity! (The choice is absolutely and totally yours!)
- B. To refuse Jesus is to be Lost and Doomed to Hell.
- C. To Receive Jesus is to be Saved and Headed for Heaven.
- D. Where do you want to spend eternity?

III. A QUESTION OF DECISIONS – V.23

- A. What bad thing did Jesus do to you that has caused you to tell Him no? (Ill. He loves you, He died for you, He longs to be with you, He calls you to come to Him.)
- B. Christian, What has Jesus done to you that has caused you to walk away from Him? (What He did for you - He saved you when you deserved Hell, He has never left you, He has provided everything you need, He loves you constantly)

Conc: Just like that crowd 2,000 years ago, you must answer the same three questions today. Don't you want the best life you can have here? And, the best eternity you can have? The only way to have the best in both worlds is to choose Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Won't you come and receive Him as your Savior today? Christian friend, won't you come home to Him right now?