

# Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

February 16, 2022

John 19: 12 - 15

**12** And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar. **13** When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. **14** And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! **15** But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

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Pastor Tom played a music video, "Fear Is a Liar" by Zack Williams. (See lyrics at the end of tonight's notes.)

\*We ended last week discussing *power*. Tonight we will deal with the issue of *fear*.

Pastor Tom asked what causes us fear:

- The unknown
- The future
- What I'll do when the Lord comes
- Death - the last enemy
  - Worry about family after our death
  - What kind of world our grandkids will face

Life is short and fear puts us in a bubble and we won't ever get those days of fear back.

## Verse 12

*And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.*

\*Pilate wanted to let Jesus go but the Jews pulled out their trump card: if you let this man go then you are not loyal to Caesar because Jesus wants to be king, going against Caesar.

\*Now Pilate is afraid of the consequences if he does let Jesus go free. So *fear* holds him back. How often do we let *fear* hold us back from what God wants us to do?

### **Verse 13**

*When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha.*

\*Pilate's fear has now caused him to bring Jesus (remember this is a beaten, scourged Jesus) back to the Judgment Hall since he is about to pass judgment on Jesus.

### **Verse 14**

*And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!*

Pastor Tom recalled a knowledgeable seminary professor who said that he believed that the preparation in this verse occurred at the exact time that the High Priest was preparing the passover lamb not far away. The same time that Pilate announced to the Jews, 'Look at your King!', the High Priests were preparing the lamb for passover!

\*Don't you think there will always be tension between Jesus Christ and the world? Between Jesus and our families? Between Jesus and the Church?

We all have troubles/concerns which result in a constant struggle between what Jesus says and what the world is pushing on us. Yet Jesus is the Absolute Truth.

There will always be so called 'God-fearing' people who will try to disprove or change the Bible. Standing strong in troubles/challenges is our witness. It is easy to say you are a follower of Jesus when times are easy. But

being faithful in difficult times is what we need to do and what God wants us to do.

All these struggles/tensions/frictions leave scars and scars are hard to forget. Just like in the song, 'No Scars in Heaven'. The test will be if we stand strong in our faith.

What will keep you from standing strong in your faith? Probably fear. Fear will hold you back from being faithful. But remember - fear is a liar and perfect love casts out all fear and Satan is the father of all lies.

### **Verse 15**

*But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.*

\*In this verse Pilate is still standing strong. Referring to Matthew 27:24-25

*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. 25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.*

\*Pilate's fear is shown again as he sees a riot arising, he rids himself of the responsibility by washing his hands. The Jews then take the responsibility upon themselves.

Referring back to the story of King David, Bathsheba and Nathan in the book of Samuel: Nathan tells David that even though he was forgiven for adultery and the murder of Bathsheba's husband, his family and kingdom and lineage would always have troubles. Almost immediately after David, King Solomon allowed evil to come into the nation. *'He had 700 wives of royal birth and 300 concubines. And in fact, they did turn his heart away from the Lord.'* (1Kings 11:3) He allowed these women to cause him to lose sight of God. And think of the plight of the Jews for the past 2000 years!

FEAR IS A LIAR

When he told you you're not good enough  
When he told you you're not right  
When he told you you're not strong enough  
To put up a good fight

When he told you you're not worthy  
When he told you you're not loved  
When he told you you're not beautiful  
That you'll never be enough

**Chorus:**

**Fear, he is a liar  
He will take your breath  
Stop you in your steps  
Fear he is a liar  
He will rob your rest  
Steal your happiness  
Cast your fear in the fire  
'Cause fear he is a liar**

When he told you were troubled  
You'll forever be alone  
When he told you you should run away  
You'll never find a home

When he told you you were dirty  
And you should be ashamed  
When he told you you could be the one  
That grace could never change

(Chorus)

Let Your fire fall and cast out all my fears  
Let Your fire fall Your love is all I feel  
Let Your fire fall and cast out all my fears  
Let Your fire fall Your love is all I feel  
Let Your fire fall and cast out all my fears  
Let Your fire fall Your love is all I feel  
Oh, let Your fire fall and cast out all my fears  
Let Your fire fall Your love is all I feel

(Chorus)