

Thought for the Day

Monday November 18, 2024

Today's Scripture:

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

~ John 18: 33-34

Thoughts on Today's Verse(s):

Like Jesus so often did, He answered Pilate's challenging question with one of His own. Maybe that was just His way of making a point or perhaps He was frustrated that Pilate, or anyone, would challenge God the way he did. Likely, it was both.

It was obvious to The Lord that Pilate had been influenced by others, the Jewish religious leaders who wanted Him out of their way. They had advised Pilate that This Fellow was dangerous to their culture and religion because He was a self-proclaimed king. This was not going to stand with them.

So, Pilate asked Jesus, almost in a condescending fashion, "*Are you king of the Jews?*"

It was like he was searching for something upon which he could hang a judgment upon The Lord or was trying to show pity upon a perceived crazy and depraved men. But Jesus didn't bite. He remained true to Who He was and condescended right back to a Roman leader beyond his depth and scope: "*Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?*"

Friends, is not Christ's question for us as well? Are we ready to answer The Lord's pointed question? Is our response to such a query one that we have been told by others or are we speaking for ourselves? Truly, this may be one of the most important questions we ever answer because it pertains to our eternal destiny.

Today, I offer you this challenge, just like Jesus did to Pilate. Can you honestly say, "*Jesus is **my** King*"? And then having said such, are you able discern if you are saying so based on what you've *heard* or upon what you *believe*? What we often hear about Jesus and what we believe are two very different things. What we hear and read about Jesus is brought to us through others and The Bible. What we believe is personal and if we truly believe that Jesus Christ, The Holy Son of God is **our** King, we have arrived at a new place; a position of true faith in The Lord of lords.

Say it with me, "**Jesus is my King!**" Believe it.

Prayer:

King of all kings, You are not only King of the Jews, You are our King. You are sovereign and eternal; You are Holy and righteous. You are regent and royal, regal and resplendent in Your glory. Today we fully, completely, genuinely declare You as our king not from what we have heard about but from what we know in our hearts. As our King, we humbly turn to You in faith, trust and worship just as any king should receive. We honor and glorify You as our personal King and Savior because You alone are worthy. May It Always Be So.