

Week of October 8, 2023

Series: The Story, Ch. 8, Pt. 5

Sermon: "This Man Has Done Nothing Wrong"

Text: Luke 23:39-43

Sermon Outline:

Biblical Truth: Jesus was crucified because Jesus was innocent.

1. Who was Jesus according to...

- Judas? "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." (Matthew 27:3-4)
- The Religious Elite? Found no testimony against Jesus to put Him to death. (Mark 14:55)
- Governor Pilate? Found no guilt in Him. (John 18:38-19:6)
- Pilate's Wife? "Have nothing to do with that righteous man". (Matthew 27:19)
- King Herod? Did not find him guilty. (Luke 23:14-15)
- A Thief on a Cross? "This man has done nothing wrong." (Luke 23:41)
- A Roman Soldier? "Certainly this man was innocent!" (Luke 23:47)

2. Who killed Jesus? (Acts 4:27-28)

- Herod.
- Pilate.
- The Gentles.
- The Israelites.
- God.

3. Who gets to be with Jesus? (Luke 23:39-43) Those who...

- Stop trying.
- Start trusting.
 - Admit that you are a sinner. (v41)
 - Believe that Jesus has done nothing wrong. (v41)
 - Commit to follow Jesus wherever He goes. (v42)

Discussion Questions:

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. Have you considered that the life Jesus lived is just as important as the death Jesus died? Discuss why it's crucial for Jesus to not only have died in your place, but also to have lived in your place.
2. Read Acts 4:27-28. If God was not orchestrating events that would lead to the cross, is there a chance that Jesus would not have died in your place? What does this say about God's love for you?
3. Read Luke 23:32-43. Do you believe that becoming a Christian and receiving eternal life is really that simple? Why or why not? Jesus gave this thief a personal guarantee he would go to Heaven. Have you considered that this personal guarantee is also for you, if you would also Admit (you are a sinner), Believe (in who Jesus is), and Commit (to follow Him)?
4. The 4th letter is **D** for "Don't put this decision off". Read Romans 6:23. Like the thief, we are all on death row. If you are not a Christian, why have you put off this decision? What are your reasons for putting it off and do you believe they are valid reasons in light of the offer Jesus is offering you for this life (John 10:10) and the next (John 3:16)? Why or why not?