

**Valley Bible Church  
Sermon Notes for August 14, 1988**

**Jesus' Gentile Trial  
Part 3  
Matthew 27:11-26/Luke 23:8-12  
Dale Whitehead**

Introduction: We would all like to see ourselves as people with character. But when things are tough, when the flame is turned up, are we?

1. 1st phase before Pilate (**John 18:28-38; Matthew 27:11-14**).
2. 2nd phase before Herod Antipas (**Luke 23:8-12**).
3. 3rd phase before Pilate (**Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 25:6-15; Luke 23:13-25; John 18:39-19:16**).

Pilate caved in; he did not display character. He felt that Jesus was innocent but did not want the disruption the Jews would cause.

Pilate really wanted to release Jesus. **Verse 15**, Pilate had chosen each year at Passover to release a prisoner, a prisoner of the multitudes choosing.

In custody is a prisoner named Barabbas, a notorious prisoner. **Mark 15:7**, Barabbas was an insurrectionist, a threat to Roman rule. Barabbas was convicted of insurrection and murder. **John 18:40** points out that Barabbas was also a robber.

**Verses 19-20**, Pilate's wife calls him away. This time frame gives the chief priests and elders time to stir up the multitudes for Jesus' crucifixion and Barabbas' release.

The substitution of Jesus for Barabbas is a picture of what Christ has done for us (**Isaiah 53:6-7**).

We are guilty of sin worthy of death yet Christ has been crucified in our place.