

WHAT IS TRUTH?

John 18:19-40

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Three typical responses to truth encounters with Jesus...

I. HIGH PRIEST _____ THE TRUTH.

JOHN 18:19-24 NIV

19 Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

20 "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret.

21 Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."

22 When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded.

23 "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?" 24 Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

A. People often _____ when confronted with Truth.

B. Truth is exclusive, not _____ !

II. PETER _____ THE TRUTH.

JOHN 18:25-27 NIV

25 As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not."

26 One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the olive grove?" 27 Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

A. The world loves to _____ Jesus!

B. Don't _____ - give it a try!

III. PILATE _____ THE TRUTH.

JOHN 18:28-40 NIV

28 Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover.

1. "What _____ are you bringing against this man?"

JOHN 18:29-32 NIV

29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?"

30 "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you." 31 Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law."

"But we have no right to execute anyone," the Jews objected. 32 This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled.

2. "Are you the _____ of the Jews?"

JOHN 18:33-37 NIV

33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

3. "What is _____?"

JOHN 8:38-40 NIV

38 "What is truth?" Pilate asked.

With this he went out again to the Jews and said, "I find no basis for a charge against him. 39 But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'?"

40 They shouted back, "No, not him! Give us Barabbas!" Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.

A. Truth is something that can be _____.

JOHN 8:32 NIV You shall know the truth & the truth will set you free.

JOHN 17:17 NIV Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

B. Truth _____ from God alone.

JOHN 14:6 NIV I am the way and the TRUTH and the life.

C. Truth _____ when heeded.

1 PETER 1:22 NIV Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

IV. HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO THE _____ ABOUT JESUS?