Matthew

Gail Arterburn –2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am | Matthew - Lesson 36
To be discussed –10/05/26 | Matthew 27:1-31

1. Read Matthew 27:1-10. What was the formal decision of the chief priests and the elders? (vv.1-2) What did Judas come to realize? How did he try to rectify his guilt?

2. How did the Jewish leaders respond? How did they try to rectify their guilt? What happened to Judas? (Matt. 27:4, Acts 1:18-20)

3. Read Matt 27:11-31, Luke 23:1-25, John 18:28-19:26. Why did the Jews call Pilate to come out to hear them? (John 18:28-29) What contradiction of values does this reveal? What charges did they bring against Jesus before Pilate? (Luke 23:1-5)

4. How did Jesus answer Pilate's original question? (Matt. 27:11) Which of the charges was of the largest concern to Pilate? Was Pilate really interested in the truth?

5. How was Pilate more honorable than the Jews? Did he understand what was really going on? Why did he send Jesus to Herod? (Luke) How did Jesus respond to Herod? What did Herod do?

6. Compare Barabbas and Jesus. How does this reveal the extent of the guilt of both leaders and the crowds? (Matthew 27:20, Mark 15:9-12)

7. How many times did Pilate declare Jesus to be innocent? Why did he finally agree to have him crucified?

8. How did Pilate try to avoid any personal responsibility for Jesus' death?

9. Is it possible to absolve ourselves of guilt for our actions? (See also Acts 2:22-24, 36-41) Can anyone who has heard of Jesus Christ remain neutral and free of responsibility regarding his identity?