

# THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION EVER ASKED!

## Matthew 27:15-24

All through life we are faced with thousands upon thousands of questions, and many of those questions have a significance to the rest of our lives. “Who will we marry?” This one question carries with it tremendous significance not only for the day of marriage but for the remainder of our lives, as well as the children that are born into our lives. “What career will I choose?” This question also carries great significance on not only our lives, but also affects our family as well. However, as significant as these questions may be, they pail in comparison the question that is found in Matthew 27: 22. The question that Pilate asked before an angry mob regarding Jesus, “What shall I do then with Jesus which is called the Christ?” While Pilate may not have realized that day the significance of that question, the sobering truth is, now 2000 years later, he realizes the sobering reality of that one question on his life for all eternity.

### **1. IT IS THE SINGLE GREATEST QUESTION THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN ANSWERED BY MANY THAT HAVE WALKED THE EARTH.**

“What shall I do with Jesus which is called the Christ?” has already been answered by masses of people that have already walked the earth and are now in their eternity of heaven or their eternity of torment and hell.

*First consider those in paradise.* If the skies could be rolled back and we had the vision to see beyond the farthest regions of the galaxies into paradise, we would see and behold a wonder of joy, where the Son is seated at the right hand of the Father, and we would behold a massive number of believers from ages gone by that are enjoying the paradise of God because they answered this question humbly and correctly before God. We would behold those of Scripture who answered it right

We would behold many of our family that have walked off the scenes of time, but are now enjoying the blessings of heaven. Though many have lived on this earth that have died from disease, accident, calamity, childhood diseases, we would be able to behold many that are with Christ because they answered this question properly. The poor person who has never had any earthly goods but has placed his faith in Christ...has answered this question properly. The child struck and killed who was recently saved, has answered this question properly. The glory of paradise is this....all in heaven have answered this question properly.

*Second, consider those in torment and hell.* If God would enable our eyes to see beyond the deepest regions of the earth, we would find a most horrible world, to which every person there has answered this question “horribly wrong”. Consider one of Jesus disciples Judas. Though he was religious and part of Jesus disciples he answered this question wrong. Consider the rich man who confronted Jesus. He walked away from Jesus, because he had great riches, and now he resides in the halls of hell for all eternity. But not only these, the Bible declares that “the masses” are in hell. Young and old have already entered the domain of darkness. Rich and poor alike have already entered hell. There are masses of souls for which there is no need to pray because their life is over. There millions of sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers that have completely rejected Jesus...and therefore no hope remains. You don’t have to be old to enter hell, and the truth is, there are many young people that find today their home is hell who yesterday were living in this city or one close to us. Their eternity is hell. Their complete future is hell. Their only future is eternal darkness, and the eternal fires of holy God vented against their rebellion of Jesus.

### **2. IT IS THE SINGLE GREATEST QUESTION THAT HAS BEEN ANSWERED BY PEOPLE OF EVERY SOCIO ECONOMIC BACKGROUND.**

*First, every leader will answer it one way or other.* Every president that has served this wonderful land and walked off the scenes of time answered it one way or the other. President George Washington, President Abraham Lincoln, President Woodrow Wilson, President Herbert Hoover, President Ronald Reagan all answered this question. Every leader of this nation or any other nation has answered that question one way or another.

*Second, every church member that is now in eternity has answered that question.* No doubt Judas was a wonderful member on the roles but being a part of “Jesus disciples” did not secure heaven for him. The truth is, each of us will answer this question one way or another, and our answer will seal forever and all eternity our future eternity. While heaven is filled with many wonderful church members, the sobering truth is hell is also filled with church members that rejected the Son of God.

*Third, rich and poor answer this question.* A person may appear to be too busy to answer this question, but in truth he is not. At some point or another, God crosses our lives, and a person chooses what he will or will not do with Jesus who is called the Christ. In the case of Pilate, he attempted to wash his hands of the sin of Jesus crucifixion, but simply “washing hands” does not release a person before the God of the universe. Every actor, actress, that has appeared on the silver screen of t.v., movies, who appear so much alive now, but in reality are dead, have answered it, and those alive answer it as well.

### **3. IT IS THE SINGLE GREATEST QUESTION THAT DETERMINES OUR PEACE.**

The Bible declares in Romans 5:1, *“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* Each person who has “no” to this question has no genuine inner peace with the Living God. There is no peace with the God that created you through “good works”. Do as much as you will, for as long as you will, and in the end of life, you will find your life still in misery. Not because God wants misery for your life, but because you have not responded properly to Jesus. The world of drugs, sex, and alcohol, reveals a world hungering for inner peace through artificial means. Nothing and no one can give or bring peace to the heart but Jesus.

You may be tormented in your soul by sins of the past, events of the past, but if you come to God through Christ, He will banish all of them, for it is God Almighty that has declared, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive.” You are living in misery, without peace of mind, soul and spirit, because you have said no to Jesus Christ. Sadly, millions of souls today are living in emotional hell, because they are consistently saying “No” to the person of Jesus Christ.

### **4. IT IS THE SINGLE GREATEST QUESTION, THAT EVEN NOW REVEALS ALL BELIEVERS.**

If you are a child of God, the question the Father ask of each of us is this, “What are you doing with Jesus?” It was Andrew the brother of Peter that was constantly bringing people to Jesus. Andrew brought his brother Peter to Jesus and introduced him to Jesus. It was Andrew that brought a boy with loaves and fishes to Jesus.

What does the Father find us doing with Jesus? If by chance your spouse would die at this moment, have you born witness to them of Jesus? Would you spouse stand in the halls of hell, realizing that you never shared with them how to be saved and come to Christ? If that co-worker was suddenly killed in an untimely accident, would you be able to say before the God of heaven, “I have introduced them to Jesus?” Or, would they stand in hell as well, realizing you never confronted their lives with the gospel? Is there even now one in hell that you know for sure to whom you never said a single word to them about Jesus?

If that precious child of yours may die in an untimely way, can you say, before the Father, you have shared with them the saving faith that is through Jesus Christ. Sadly, the reality of many saints will reveal a sobering truth...that many have never heard the words of Jesus from our lips. What does the Father find you doing with Jesus?

The sobering truth is, we are now answering this question by our lives. If we attend this fellowship and never voice our faith to another single soul...that reveals that we are putting our “light under a basket”. While we may not desire to answer this question due to its conviction...the sobering fact is this...every single one who names the name of Jesus, is doing something with Jesus every day of their lives!

### **5. IT IS THE SINGLE GREATEST QUESTION BECAUSE IT CARRIES ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES.**

Jesus declared, "There is no way to the Father but by me". (Jn. 14:6) This single question, "What shall we do with Jesus?", is the greatest question, because it carries with it the eternal residence of every person on the face of the earth. Your answer to this one question does affect each of us and our eternity. It is required of every person that enters the paradise of God that they be holy. However, all of mankind has this problem, we are sinners, with a bent against God. We can't perform enough to please God. Jesus Christ provides the only way to the Father through His sinless, holy, and pure life.

To reject Jesus does not alter Jesus one iota, or His love for you, but it will completely alter our eternity forever. All those in the halls of hell have declared "I reject Jesus". All in the halls of hell have spurned the love and grace of God, and now they are forever in a place of outer darkness, where they will abide forever and ever. And the sobering truth is this....if you reject Jesus, you will abide with all that are there as well. Never to know a single joy of God. Never to know the beauty and splendor of God and heaven. Never to know an eternity of happiness. What will you do with Jesus who is called the Christ?

You can say "yes" to Jesus....by a simple prayer. *"Lord Jesus, I know and I admit that I am a sinner before You. I know that if I died this moment I would enter torment. Lord Jesus, I call on You to save me. I ask you to come into my life right this moment is my prayer. In Jesus I pray. Amen"*