

## “Which One Are You?”

This week I started thinking about the people around Jesus during the 24 hour period surrounding His crucifixion -- for your and my sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. <sup>1</sup> John 2:2 (NIV) I thought about their actions and their attitudes that caused those actions. I realized that people today have the same attitudes. These attitudes cause us to accept Jesus or reject Jesus, to follow Him or forsake Him, to stand tall or to fall, and to know forgiveness or to know fear. Where are **you**, today? God asked Adam & Eve this question; not because He needed to know, but because they needed to know. I believe God is asking us this same question, today, for the same reason.

### ***WHERE ARE YOU IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST?***

#### **1. ARE YOU LIKE THE SANHEDRIN?**

Most of the Sanhedrin were so worried about position, power & prestige in the present life they ignored the facts & refused to accept Jesus. “If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” <sup>John 11:48</sup> (NIV)

#### ***How many have missed Heaven because their fear?***

2. OR LIKE THE CROWD called for the killing of Jesus because they developed a mob mentality. A week earlier [The crowd] spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!" <sup>Matt 21:8-9</sup> (NIV) Today, even the crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. <sup>Mark 15:8-11</sup> (NIV)

#### ***Are you swayed by the crowd or your convictions?***

3. OR LIKE PILATE who even though he had been warned by his wife & troubled when he realized that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God. <sup>John 19:7</sup> (NIV) From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." <sup>John 19:12</sup> (NIV)

So Pilate decided to grant their demand. Luke 23:24 (NIV)

4. **OR LIKE ONE OF THE CRIMINALS** who hung there [and] hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Luke 23:39-42 (NIV) Then there was the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!" Mark 15:39 (NIV)

5. **OR LIKE JUDAS**, His betrayer, who although he had followed Jesus 3 years, not being a true believer didn't believe Jesus would forgive him, [Therefore,] seeing that [Jesus] had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. Matt 27:3-5 (NKJV)

6. **OR LIKE PETER** who was willing to stand up in a crowd but not alone "Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be." Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." But he spoke more vehemently, "If I have to die with You, I will not deny you!" And they all said likewise. Mark 14:29-31 (NKJV) But, Peter having experienced forgiveness before, when The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly. Luke 22:61-62 (NIV)

7. **OR LIKE THE [9 DISCIPLES who] all forsook Him and fled.** Mark 14:50

8. **OR LIKE JOHN** who I think did what he could. Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in. John 18:15-16 (NIV) When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. John 19:26-27 (NIV)