

**WHAT SHALL I DO THEN WITH JESUS?
(Matthew 27:19-25)**

I. Who has to answer this question.

- A. This is a question that must be answered by every accountable person.
- B. This is a personal question: "What shall I do...?"
 - 1. I can't answer it for you.
 - 2. You can't answer it for me.
- C. No one is immune from this question who comes to a state where right and wrong is understood and realizes that wrongs have been committed by him/her.
- D. Each of us is responsible for how we live (2 Corinthians 5:10).
- E. Christians need to understand that we must continually answer this question as well.
 - 1. Every day to which we wake up we make a decision about what we will do with Jesus that day.
 - 2. We decide that we will continue with Him or turn our backs on Him.
 - 3. We must examine ourselves (2 Corinthians 13:5).
 - 4. We are to continually confess Him before men (Matthew 10:32-33), which is done by the way we live our lives.

II. How some have answered this question.

- A. Many people about whom we read in the New Testament had the opportunity to answer this question with Jesus in front of them.
- B. It is interesting to see how some of them answered.
- C. The Gadarenes asked Jesus to leave their area of the country.
 - 1. Jesus had healed a man that had lived among the tombs who was inhabited by numerous demons.
 - 2. When the demons were cast out they went into a herd of swine that was nearby and the herd charged into the ocean.
 - 3. When the countrymen came to the site, they asked Jesus to leave (Luke 8:37).
 - 4. They had the Son of God in their midst and wanted Him to leave.
 - 5. There are those that are studied with or do their own study and when presented with the truth ask you to leave or quit studying.
- D. The mob present at the trial of Jesus cried out, "Let Him be crucified!" (Matthew 27:22-23).
 - 1. They wanted nothing to do with Jesus.
 - 2. Many are like that today and some of His own people crucify Him afresh by turning from Him (Hebrews 6:6).
- E. Pilate chose to wash hands of the matter (Matthew 27:24).

1. Pilate tried to take a position of neutrality.
 2. This is not an option because we are either for or against Jesus (Matthew 12:30).
- F. Judas betrayed Jesus (Matthew 26:47-49).
1. One who had been with Jesus for a long time betrayed Him.
 2. Sad it is to see those saints who have been long time with Jesus, for some reason, turn their back on Him.
- G. Peter denied Him but later repented (Matthew 26:72).
1. At times, most of us deny the Lord in some way.
 2. Thankfully, many of us that do that see the sin we have committed and repent of it.
- H. Paul counted all things loss for Christ.
1. Here was a man who was on the fast track to success in the Jews religion.
 2. For Christ, Paul willingly turned his back on all that he knew and lived for Jesus (Philippians 3:7; 1:20-21).
 3. This allowed him to write some marvelous words to Timothy (2 Timothy 4:6-8).
- III. The question will one day be reversed.**
- A. There is coming a day of judgment (Acts 17:30-31).
1. On that day we will be judged by the words of Jesus (John 12:48).
 2. We will be judged by how we lived in our bodies in accordance with those words (2 Corinthians 5:10).
- B. Right now, Jesus is knocking at the door of our hearts wanting to come in and to stay in (Revelation 3:20).
- C. On the day of judgment, Jesus will turn the question around on us: "What shall I do with you" will be asked us by Jesus.
- D. How we answered the question posed in this sermon will determine how Jesus answers His question on the judgment day.

The idea for and some of the material in this sermon came from Leroy Brownlow's book "Great Questions In The New Testament."