

CARTHAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

JANUARY 19, 2020

Founded by Christ---Grounded in His Word---Committed to His Love

What Will You Do With Jesus? (Part 1 and 2)

Joe Slater

“What will you do with Jesus? The question comes to you! And you must give an answer, for something you must do.” So begins James Robinson’s well-known hymn from nearly a hundred years ago. The song is right! There are places aplenty to be neutral, but this isn’t one of them. No one can encounter Jesus without responding in some way. In Matthew chapters 26 and 27 we find at least seven ways in which people responded to Jesus in the last hours of His life. Here is one:

Judas Iscariot, what will you do with Jesus? Judas answers, “I’ll betray Him!” For thirty pieces of silver, the price of a slave (Exod. 21:32), Judas sold the sinless Son of God into the clutches of His most fanatical foes (Matthew 26:14-16; 47-49). He used a kiss, the customary greeting of friendship, to identify Jesus to the mob that came to arrest Him. No wonder the name Judas carries such a negative connotation! A Judas goat leads the other goats or sheep into the slaughter house, then returns for another group. And one who turns his back on a friend is labeled a “Judas.”

No one today literally turns Jesus over to His enemies to be crucified; but that doesn’t mean we can’t betray Him. Regarding once faithful but now fallen Christians the Hebrews writer said, “*they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame*” (6:6). By their actions, they shame Jesus as a fake, an imposter, a fraud, just as His enemies claimed when they had Him crucified. We loathe Judas for selling Jesus for thirty pieces of silver, but is our price even less? Will we sell Him for the thrill of physical pleasure? For the approval of worldly friends? Indeed, what will you do with Jesus?

Caiaphas, High Priest of Israel, what will you do with Jesus? Caiaphas replies, “I’ll condemn Him!” The kangaroo court of Caiaphas met illegally in the middle of the night to consider the case of Jesus of Nazareth (Matt. 26:57-66). Caiaphas and his cronies actively sought false witnesses against Jesus, blatantly breaking the third and ninth commandments. But even the liars couldn’t keep their lies straight! Only with persistent effort did they finally find two men to perjure themselves with the same lie, thus providing a quasi-legal excuse to condemn Jesus.

As presiding judge, Caiaphas’ duty was to maintain neutrality and protect the rights of the accused. Instead, he assumed the role of prosecutor. Violating every principle of fairness, he placed Jesus under oath and compelled Him to testify against Himself. And to top it all off, without first asking for a vote of the judges, Caiaphas pronounced Jesus guilty of blasphemy, a capital crime, because Jesus confessed to being the Son of God! Naturally, the other judges agreed. The whole lot of them had made up their minds before sending the mob to arrest Jesus.

Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended to the right hand of God in heaven; so, nobody today can do exactly what Caiaphas did in condemning Him. However, if we refuse to trust and obey Him, are we not, in essence, agreeing with Caiaphas that Jesus really isn’t the Son of God? Wouldn’t that make Him guilty of blasphemy since He said He is God’s Son?

Let’s set the record straight: If Jesus is the Son of God, then you owe Him your absolute, unqualified loyalty. If He isn’t, then Caiaphas was right, and Jesus got what He deserved. There is no middle ground. What will you do with Jesus?

Assignments for this week:

Sunday AM: 1-19-2020:

Announcements: Josh Clements

Greeter: Chayer

Opening Prayer: Alan Cook

Lord's Supper: Dennis Hartley

Bill Talley

Takota Anderson

Clay Johnson

Scripture Reading: Chandler Marks

Closing Prayer: Takota Anderson

Song leader AM: Mike Lawson

Communion to Shut ins: Johnson

Sunday PM: 1-19-2020:

Opening Prayer: Carl Lucas

Closing Prayer: Gary Beach

Song Leader: Kai Clements

Wednesday: 1-22-2020:

Song Leader: Richard Lyons

Devotional: Larry Lawson

BIBLE CLASSES:

There is a 0.0296% chance your child will become a professional athlete. There is a 100% chance your child will stand before Jesus to be judged. Get them to Bible class!

If you have not been coming to Bible classes on Sunday or Wednesday, make an effort to come and see what all the classes are offering everyone from the youngest person to the oldest person. Several new classes have recently begun so find a class and get involved!

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Ron Gibson: cancer

Robin Thompson (sister of Lindia

Kisling): blood cancer

Emily Anderson's grandfather:

Heart issues

Sharolet Trease (sister of Charlie

Baker): cancer

Ron McCully (friend of Bakers):

Health concerns

Lorraine Moser: Heart and kidney issues

Laure Bryant (sister of Maureen Dunaway's daughter-in-law): undergoing cancer treatments.

Ben Quade (brother-in-law of Bev Baker) undergoing cancer treatments.

Priscilla Lorton: Health issues

Jo Shrum: illness

Barb Durham's sister-in-law's sister: cancer

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters serving in the military and their families.

**Fair Havens Children's Home
Pantry List for January:**

Chocolate chips, cooking oil, Miracle Whip, ketchup, mustard, Ro-tel, taco sauce, taco seasoning, enchilada sauce and seasonings, gravy mixes, instant mashed potato flakes, Spam, sloppy joe mixes (canned or powder), and cookie/brownie mixes.

Also, remember to bring in used clothing for donation or to bale, money or gift cards to Walmart, and decent furniture/bedding (no TVs or mattresses).

Elders:

Dennis Hartley 417-674-0018

Larry Lawhon 417-310-2107

JR Sampson 417-674-0980

Deacons:

Takota Anderson 417-389-7449

Charles Baker 417-673-5237

Marty Block 417-388-2147

Josh Clements 417-850-0654

David Lawhon 417-388-1232

Steve Teel 417-359-6958

Minister:

John Johnson 417-434-0754

Worship Times:

10:20 AM Sunday

6:00 PM Sunday

Bible Class:

9:30 AM Sunday

7 PM Wednesday

Address:

3122 S. Grand Avenue
Carthage, MO 64836

Phone:

417-358-3661

Website:

carthagecoc.org

Supported Works:

Fair Haven Children's Home

Search Program

Gary Reaves

House to House

Weekly Record:

Sunday AM Worship: 79

Sunday PM Worship: 57

Wed. Night Class: 60

Contribution: \$2947

****Please make it a habit to check your mailboxes periodically for cards, letters, forms to complete or other items.**