

Tiberius, The Year of Christ, Herod, & Pilate

Bible Study from Luke 3:1

TWIN CITIES BAPTIST CHURCH

WED JANUARY 11, 2023

Let's Start With One Verse

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Luke 3:1

Now in the **fifteenth year** of the reign of **Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

When did Tiberius Caesar Reign, & How can we verify it?

Most Historians say He Reigned ~AD 14-37

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But there is a backstory ~12 BC

“Against his will, Augustus made his son-in-law, Tiberius, his partner in the government to replace Agrippa, because his grandsons, Gaius and Lucius, were still children. Therefore, he betrothed his daughter Julia, the widow of Agrippa, to Tiberius. Augustus forced Tiberius to divorce his wife Agrippina, the daughter of Agrippa and the grand-daughter of Pomponius Atticus. Tiberius was upset by this, because his wife was nursing his son, Drusus, and was expecting another child.”

James Ussher, *Annals of the World*, #5981, p.769-770.

Most Historians say He Reigned ~AD 14-37

4

Fast Forward to 12 AD

“The Senate and people of Rome, at Augustus’ request, made a decree that Tiberius should have the same power in all the provinces and armies as he himself had. Suetonius stated that the following law was proposed by the consuls: that Tiberias should govern the provinces in common with Augustus...

From this can be concluded that Tiberias was now prince, or viceroy, in 12 AD, two whole years before Augustus’ death. Therefore a distinction must be noted between the beginning of Tiberius’ first being a prince, or viceroy, and his later becoming emperor.”

James Ussher, *Annals of the World*, #6197-6198, p.793-794.

Tiberius Coins Show he was Caesar before 14 AD

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This AE Copper Roman Empire Sestertius depicts **Tiberius** as Caesar. It has been minted in Rome in **10-11 A.D.** under Augustus. It is referenced in RIC 240, BMCRE 572-3, CBN 1737.



Tiberius AE Sestertius. Rome Mint Under Augustus **10-11 AD**. Obverse: TI CAESAR AVGVSTI IMPERATOR V Bare head of Tiberius left. Reverse: ROM ET AVGV the great Altar of Roma and Augustus at Lugdunum, flanked by columns surmounted by statues of victory, the altar ornamented with three wreaths. References: RIC 240, BMCRE 572-3, CBN 1737

Now in the **fifteenth year** of the reign of **Tiberius Caesar...**

the word of God came unto **John the son of Zacharias** in the wilderness...
preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins

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- | | | | |
|----|-------|-----|--------------|
| 1. | 12 AD | 9. | 20 AD |
| 2. | 13 AD | 10. | 21 AD |
| 3. | 14 AD | 11. | 22 AD |
| 4. | 15 AD | 12. | 23 AD |
| 5. | 16 AD | 13. | 24 AD |
| 6. | 17 AD | 14. | 25 AD |
| 7. | 18 AD | 15. | <u>26 AD</u> |
| 8. | 19 AD | | |

Luke 3:21-23 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that **Jesus also being baptized**, and praying, the heaven was opened... And **Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age**, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was *the son* of Heli...

Thus Jesus' Year of Birth:

26 AD – 30 yrs = 4 BC

Matches Historical Date of Herod's Death;
Strengthening argument for Wise Men @ Nativity

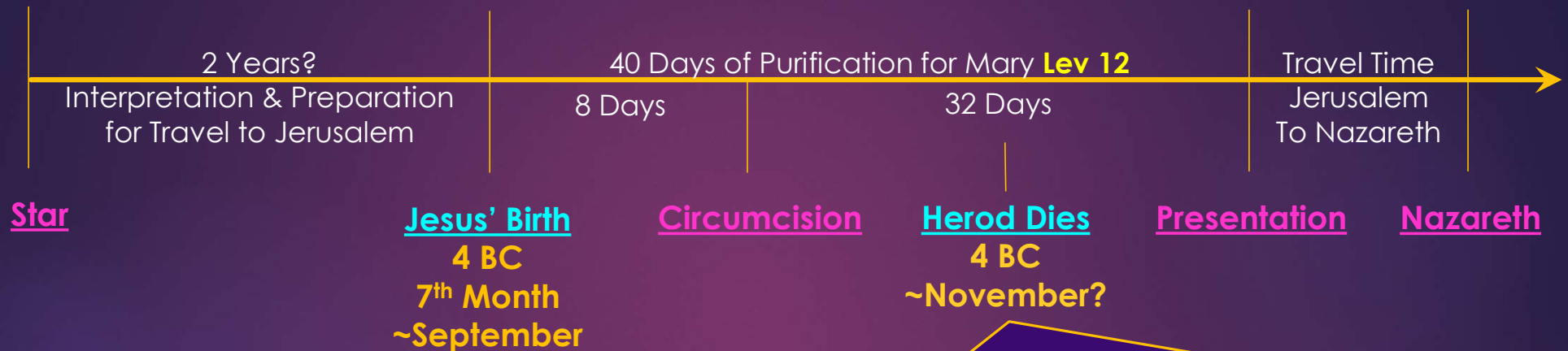
Thus Jesus' Year of Death:

26 AD + *3.5 yrs Public Ministry

= ~30 AD (*3 Passovers + 4th Himself **1Cor 5:7**)

Remember This Timeline?

Could Herod Have Died in Such Short Time? HE DID!



“After Herod had ordered these things, he died on the fifth day after he executed Antipater. He had held the kingdom for thirty-four years after having killed Antigonus, but thirty-seven years from the time that he was declared king by the Romans...

4 BC would be the last year of his thirty-four year reign.

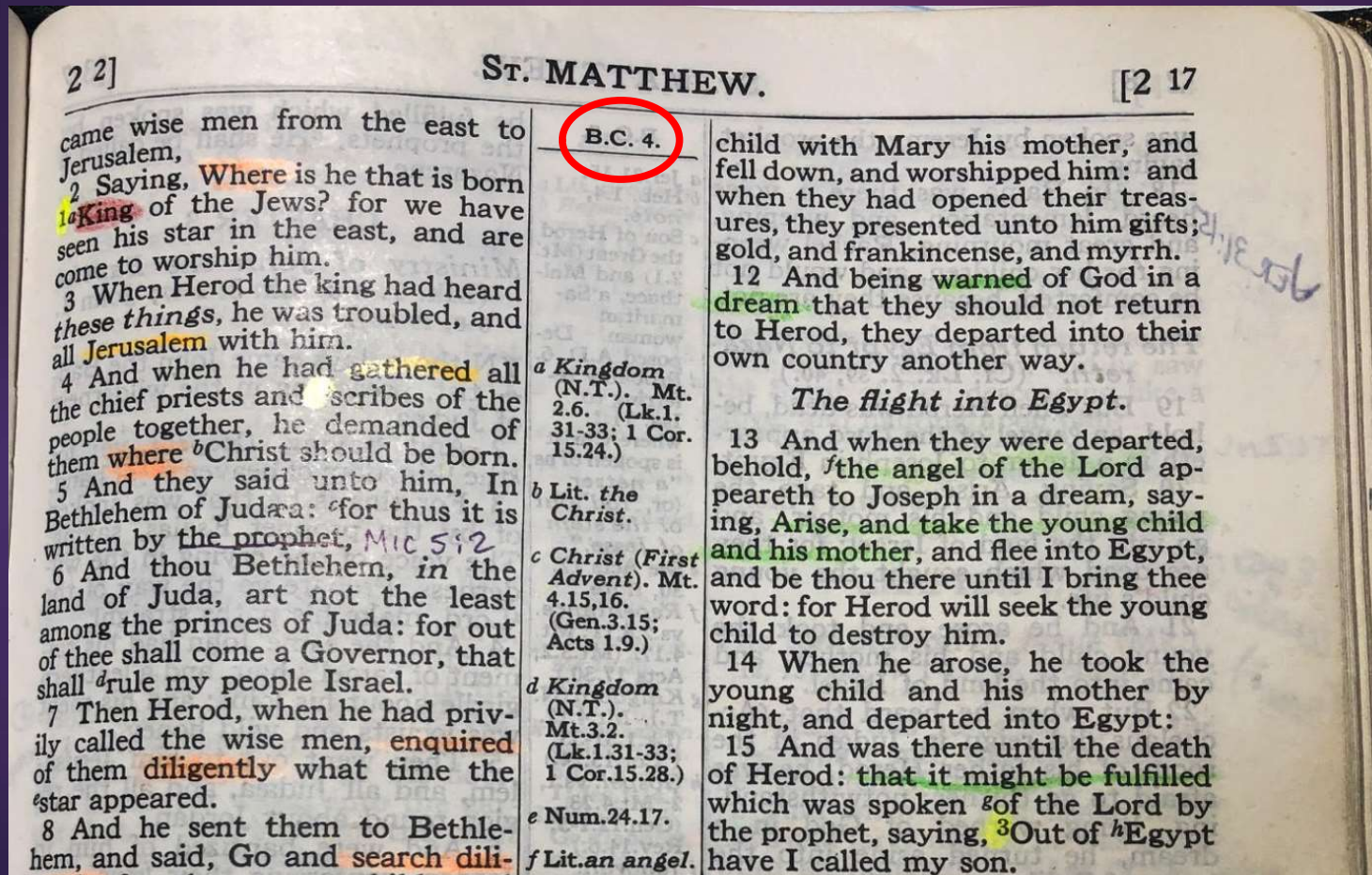
He died about the *25th of November, that is, the 7th of the month of Chisleu...”

James Ussher, *Annals of the World*, #6082, p.781. *Homework: How? The exact day is off a bit!

This helps to understand why dates appear so...

(The Old Scofield Study Bible, 1909)

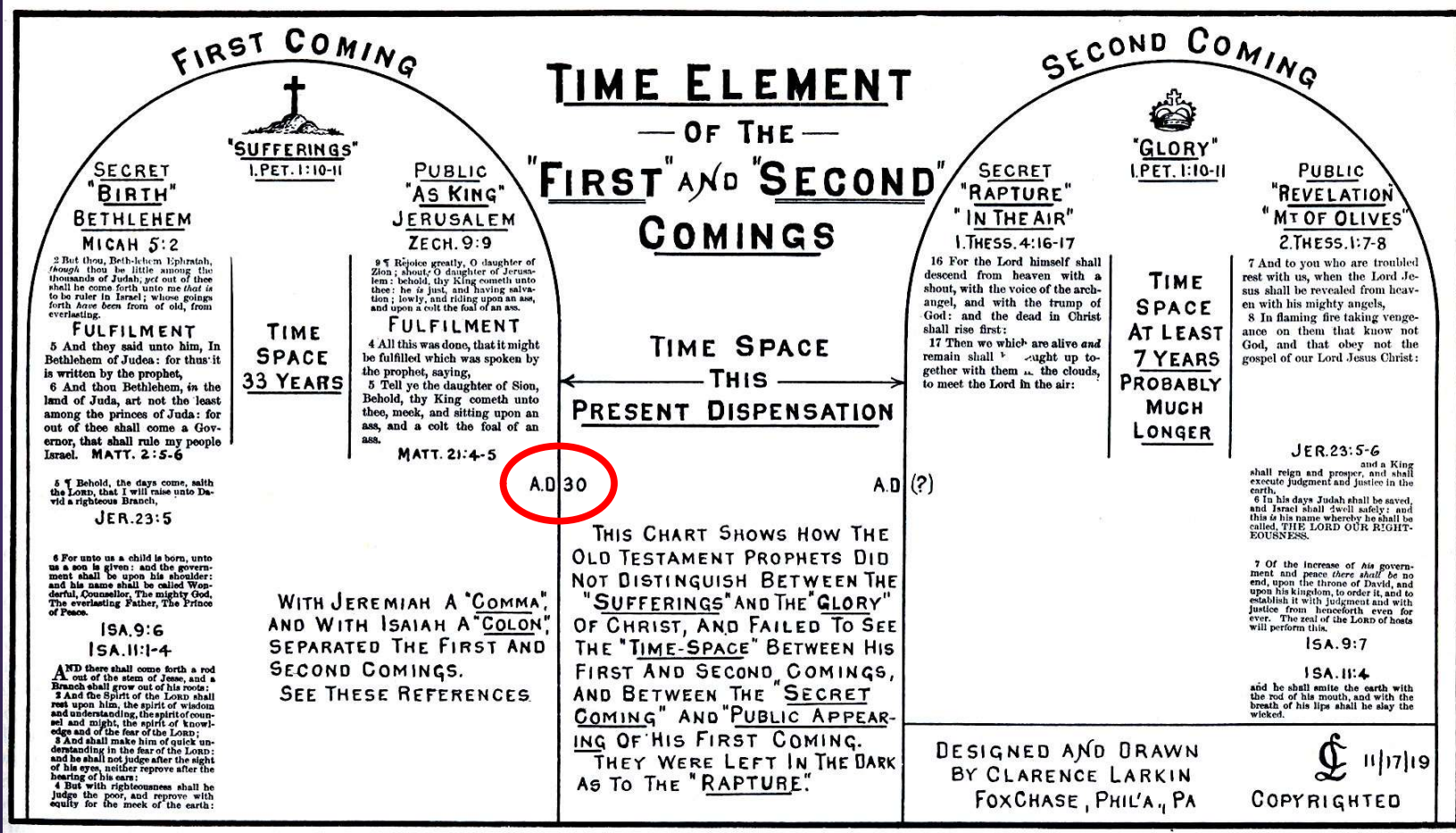
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This helps to understand why dates appear so...

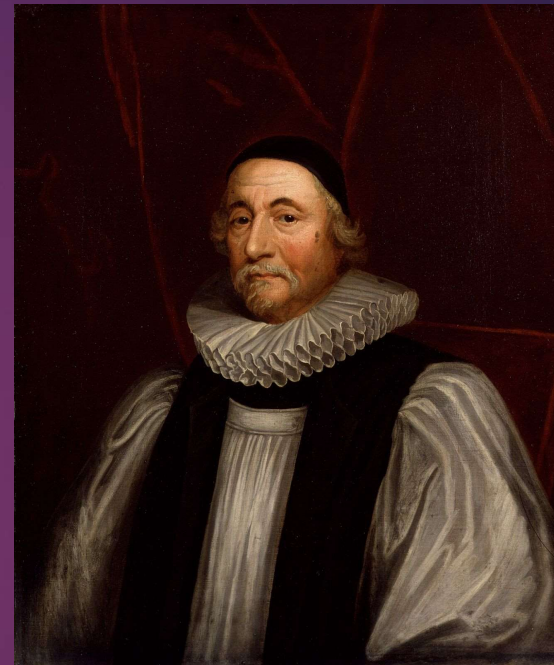
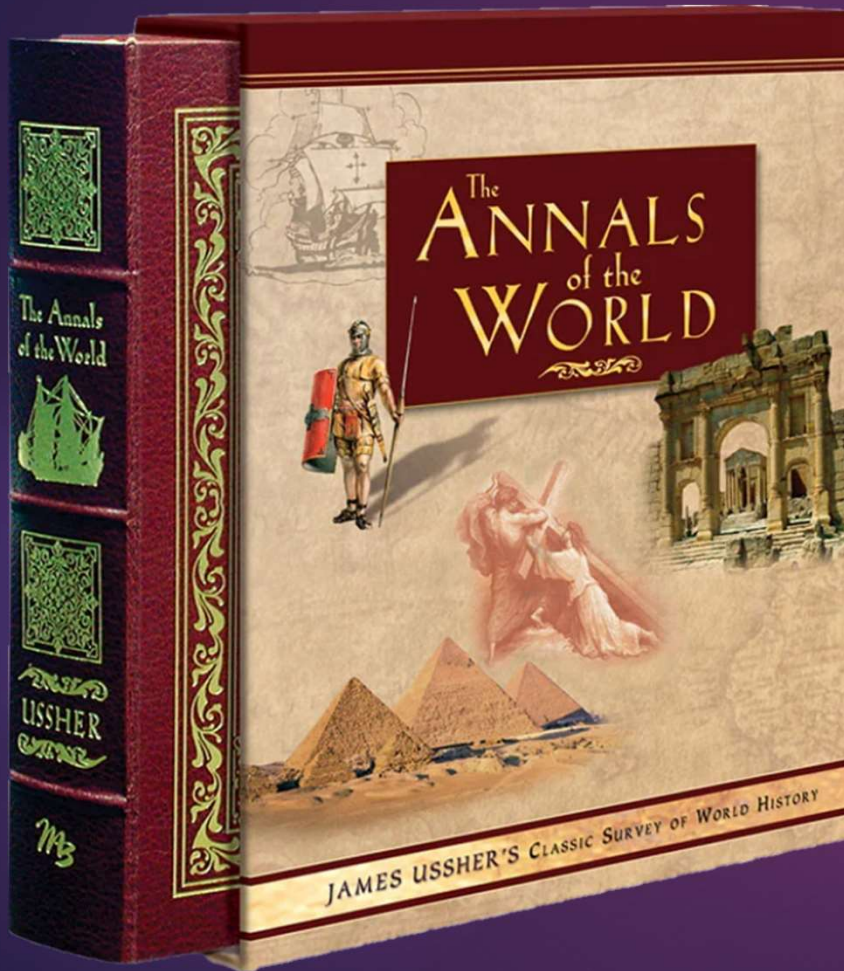
(Clarence Larkin Dispensational Truth – 11/17/1919)

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BTW: This is a Great Bible Study Resource!

10



James Ussher,
(born Jan. 4, 1581, Dublin, Ire.—
died March 21, 1656, Reigate, Surrey, Eng.)

Even More from this verse!

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Luke 3:1

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, **Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea**, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

What Year did Pontius Pilate Become Governor?

Pontius Pilate, (died after 36 AD),
Roman prefect (governor) of Judaea (**26–36 AD**)
under the emperor Tiberius who presided at the
trial of Jesus and gave the order for his crucifixion.

1.	12 AD	9.	20 AD
2.	13 AD	10.	21 AD
3.	14 AD	11.	22 AD
4.	15 AD	12.	23 AD
5.	16 AD	13.	24 AD
6.	17 AD	14.	25 AD
7.	18 AD	15.	26 AD
8.	19 AD		

What Do We Know About Pilate?

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Luke 13:1-5

- ¹ There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood **Pilate** had mingled with their sacrifices.
- ² And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans **were sinners above all** the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?
- ³ I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, **ye** shall **all likewise** perish.
- ⁴ Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they **were sinners above all** men that dwelt in Jerusalem?
- ⁵ I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, **ye** shall **all likewise** perish.

A PAGAN w/ NO REGARD FOR SACRED THINGS OF THE JEWS & THEIR GOD
Tragedy (as well as Success) is not a reliable indicator of spiritual health.

What Do We Know About Pilate?

13

Matthew 27:17-20

Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.

When he was set down on the judgment seat, **his wife** sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for **I have suffered many things this day in a dream** because of him.

But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

HE HAD A SUPERSTITIOUS WIFE

And he appeared to be immune to her premonitions!

What Do We Know About Pilate?

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John 18:37-40

Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. **Pilate saith unto him, What is truth?** And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, **I find in him no fault at all.** But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the passover: **will ye therefore** that I release unto you the King of the Jews? Then cried they all again, saying, Not this man, but Barabbas. Now Barabbas was a robber.

ABLE TO DEFLECT TRUE ISSUES WITH “STUPID” QUESTIONS

Ability to make Hard Decisions – Yet Inability to make Hard Decisions!

What Do We Know About Pilate?

15

John 19:6-8

When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify *him*, crucify *him*. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify *him*: **for I find no fault in him**. The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. When **Pilate** therefore heard that saying, **he was the more afraid**

**LIKE MOST “LIFER” POLITICIANS WAS AFRAID DEEP DOWN INSIDE
HE CHOSE “POPULARITY” & “ACCEPTANCE” OVER TRUTH**

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare:
but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

What Do We Know About Pilate?

16

Luke 23:4 Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people,
I find no fault in this man.

Luke 23:14 Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, **I**, having examined *him* before you, **have found no fault in this man** touching those things whereof ye accuse him:

Luke 23:22 And he said unto them **the third time**, Why, what evil hath he done? **I have found no cause of death in him**: I will therefore chastise him, and let *him* go.

**ULTIMATELY PILATE DENIED HIMSELF & THE TRUTH THREE TIMES
RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF THE SAVIOUR
NEVER ACT AGAINST YOUR CONSCIENCE – THERE IS NO PEACE IN THAT!**

How Did Peter Differ From Pilate?

17

Luke 22:57 And he denied him, saying, **Woman, I know him not.**

Luke 22:58 And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, **Man, I am not.**

Luke 22:60 And Peter said, **Man, I know not what thou sayest.** And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew.

Luke 22:61-62 And **the Lord turned, and looked** upon Peter. And **Peter remembered** the word of the Lord...And **Peter** went out, and **wept** bitterly.

John 21:15 ...Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me** more than these? He saith unto him, **Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.**

John 21:16 ...He saith...the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me?** He saith unto him, **Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.**

John 21:17 He saith...the third time, **Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?** Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, **Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.** Jesus saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.**

**ULTIMATELY PETER DENIED THE TRUTH THREE TIMES
BUT IT RESULTED IN HIM BEING COMMISSIONED BY THE SAVIOUR!**

No Character vs. Character!

18

Matthew 27:24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but *that* rather a tumult was made, **he took water, and washed his hands** before the multitude, saying, **I am innocent** of the blood of this just person: see ye *to it*.

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: **but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.**

Proverbs 28:1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: **but the righteous are bold as a lion.**

PETER'S ULTIMATE LEGACY & END IS KNOWN

2 Peter 1:14-15 Knowing that shortly **I must put off this my tabernacle**, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able **after my decease** to have these things always in remembrance.

PONTIUS PILATE'S ULTIMATE LEGACY & END? THE BIBLE IS SILENT!

Luke 23:12 And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves.
We DO Know that he became buddies with Herod, which is not a good thing! "Birds of a feather..."

How is any of this
Practical?

How Can this Build My Faith?