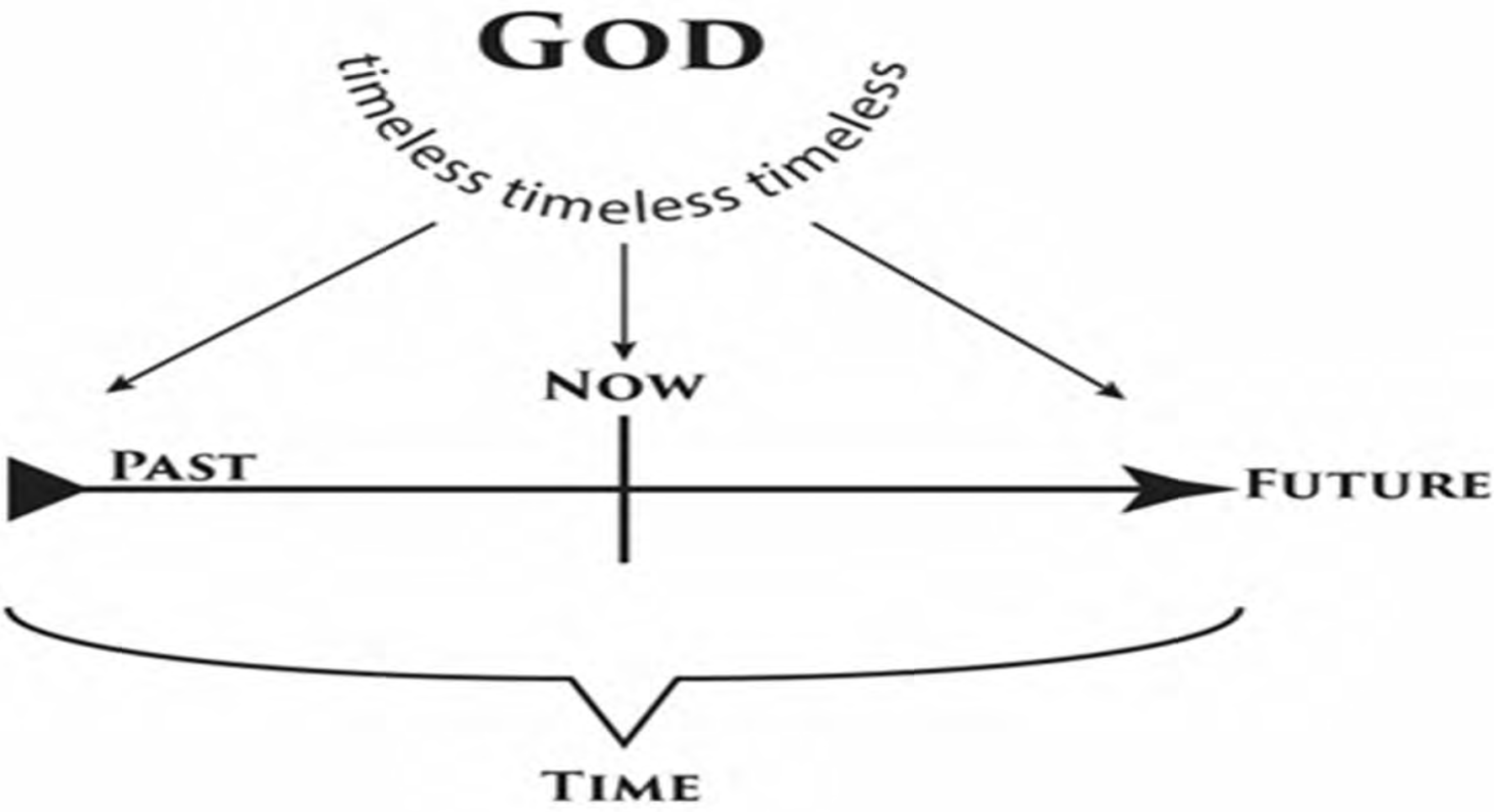


Indecisive, Ignoring the Evidence
Matthew 27: 11-26

January 28, 2024

Foreknowledge = to know beforehand



Verse 11 - 14

Pilate marveled at Jesus

What did Jesus mean, “*My kingdom is not of this world*”?

Jesus’ kingdom is not related to this world’s kingdoms, which are run by Satan, the king of lies

Jesus will inform Pilate about what His kingdom is all about, *the TRUTH!* - John 18: 37-38

Truth = that which IS, not that which is made up in the mind of a person

Who establishes truth?

GOD!

You are armed with the truth, which is a formidable enemy of the lie

We are not to be indecisive, ignoring the evidence, but speak the TRUTH in love

How do we do this?

2 Timothy 4: 1-4

- **2 Timothy 4:1-4 (NKJV)** - I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:
²Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.
- ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Verse 15 - 18

Pilate ignores the evidence

It is very common for humans to ignore the evidence and function on their ***FEELINGS!***

Pilate was a survivalist, a feelings guy, worried about his position, and how he looked to Rome

Pilate gives the rabid crowd a choice,
Barabbas or Jesus

The crowd wants blood; not Barabbas' blood, but Christ's blood

This is the same crowd that, a few days earlier on Palm Sunday, was hailing Jesus as King

What did the crowd want?

The kingdom NOW!

Kingdom now theology is popular today

- The Church will usher in the kingdom by taking over the seven mountains of society

These 7 areas most define culture



Will the Church usher in the kingdom, make the world better for the return of Christ?

NO!

Many well-intended believers, caught up in this movement, ignore the evidence

The evidence comes from Scripture and is clear! It is not a matter of interpretation!

Hear Jesus: Matthew 24: 7

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”

Hear Jesus: Luke 18: 8

“When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

Hear Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2: 3

“Let no one deceive you by any means, for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first.”

Falling away = *“apostasia”* = a
departure from the faith

Hear Scripture: **Revelation 3: 14-22 - The Laodicean Church**

This Church will dominate at the end of the age

This Church was neither hot nor cold; the lukewarm, "*all about me*" Church; it made Jesus sick to His stomach

Our world will not get better and better but will become worse and worse!

NO, the Church will not make things better and better; *the evidence is clear!*

Verse 19

**Pilate not only ignores the evidence
but ignores a warning!**

God uses Pilate's wife to warn Pilate –

DON'T DO IT!

Lesson:

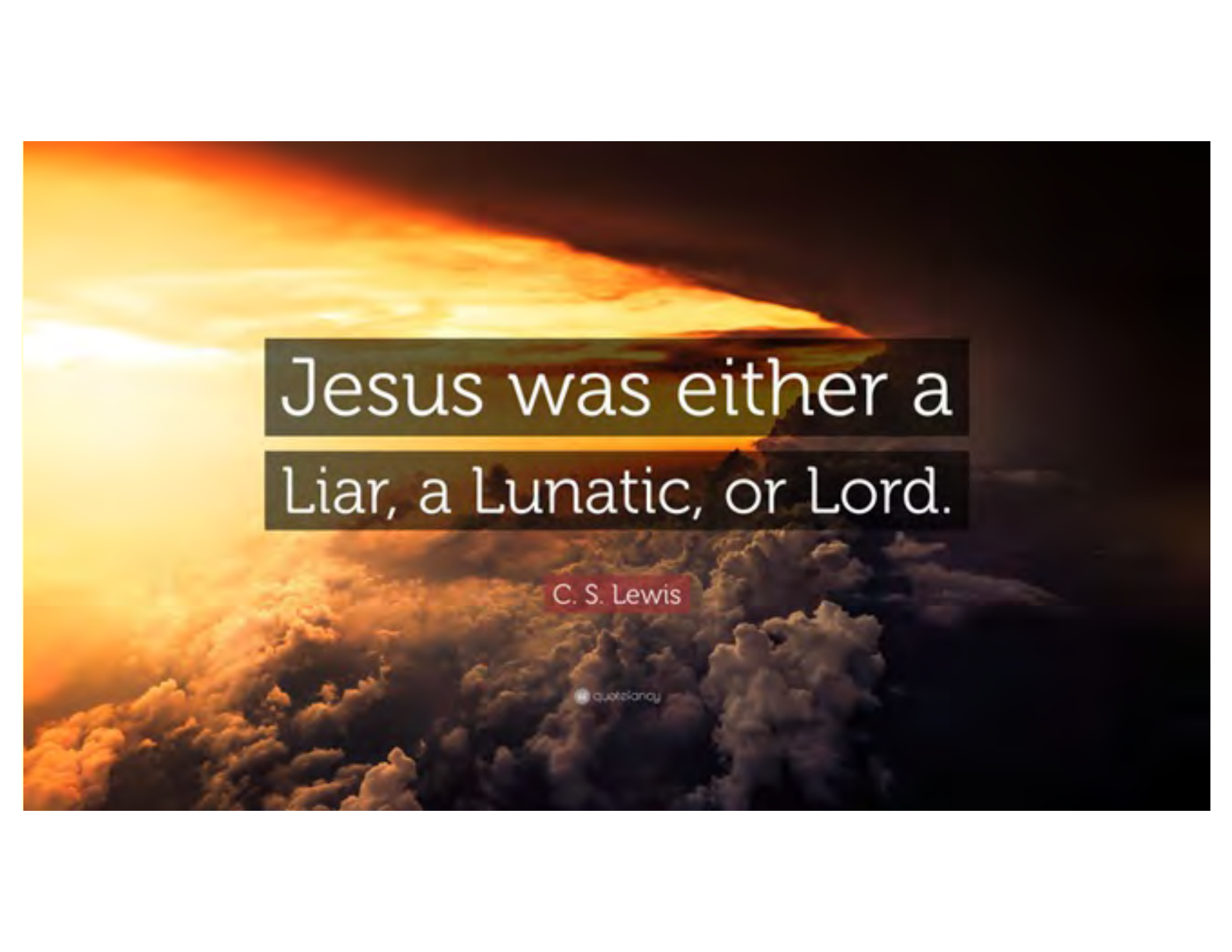
God always warns before He judges

Pilate had been warned!

Warning:

Do not ignore the evidence about Jesus

He is your only hope, ***YOUR ONLY
SAVIOR!***



Jesus was either a
Liar, a Lunatic, or Lord.

C. S. Lewis

 quoteslaney

Verse 20 - 22

Give us Barabbas!

An indecisive Pilate caved to the crowd's demands; he went along to get along

HOW SAD!

Pilate sealed his eternal destiny by rejecting Jesus - the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

Pilate's question is for all of humanity:

What will you do with Jesus who is called Christ?

Verse 23 - 26

Indecision will not let you off the hook!

The evidence was clear, **Jesus was innocent of all charges!**

Pilate, *afraid of the crowd, afraid of Rome, and driven by fear and indecision*, ignores the evidence!

The Jewish people, throughout history, have been called the ***“Christ Killer”***

Today, most mainline Churches believe in ***“Replacement Theology”***, the Church has replaced Israel

This has set the stage for antisemitism in our world

Replacement Theology is rooted in an errant view of Scripture; ignoring the unconditional covenants God made with Israel – **Jeremiah 31: 35-37**

Jeremiah 31:35-37

Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The LORD of hosts is His name:³⁶ “If this fixed order departs From before Me,” declares the LORD, “Then the offspring of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me forever.”³⁷ Thus says the LORD, “If the heavens above can be measured And the foundations of the earth searched out below, Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel For all that they have done,” declares the LORD.



CLOSING:

Do not be like Pilate and be indecisive,
ignoring the evidence

BEHOLD, *Today is the Day of Salvation!*

COME TO CHRIST WHILE YOU CAN!

THE **ABC'S** OF SALVATION

ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

BELIEVE ON CHRIST. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31)

CONFESS YOUR SINS. "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation" (Romans 10:9-10)