

## CHRIST BEFORE PILATE

## Lesson IX.

John 18 : 28-40—Memory Verses 38-40

May 28, 1899

28. Then led they Je'sus from Cai'aphas unto the hall of judgment : and it was early ; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled ; but that they might eat the passover.

29. Pi'late then went out unto them, and said, What accusation bring ye against this man ?

30. They answered and said unto him, If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee.

31. Then said Pi'late unto them, Take ye him, and judge him according to your law. The Jews therefore said unto him, It is not lawful for us to put any man to death :

32. That the saying of Je'sus might be fulfilled, which he spake, signifying what death he should die.

33. Then Pi'late entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews ?

34. Je'sus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me ?

35. Pi'late answered, Am I a Jew ? Thine

own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me : what hast thou done ?

36. Je'sus answered, My kingdom is not of this world : if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews : but now is my kingdom not from hence.

37. Pi'late therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then ? Je'sus 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.

38. Pi'late 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.

39. 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 ?

40. Then cried they all again, saying, Not this man, but Barab'bas. Now Barab'bas was a robber.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

After Jesus had been standing all night in the High Priest's palace these wicked men led Him early in the morning through the streets to Pilate's house to be judged.

Great crowds of angry Jews went along with them, mocking and making fun of Jesus.

He was not pleased, either, at being wakened up so early in the morning, and asked in an angry voice, "What has the man done?"

Then they said, "He is a bad man, or we would not have brought Him to you." "He says He is a king."

Pilate said, "Take Him away and judge Him yourselves."

But they said it was against the law for the Jews to punish a man by death, and they wanted to get Pilate to do it for them.

Then Pilate went into the judgment hall and called for Jesus to come and be judged.

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus said, "I am a King, but my kingdom is not of this world." Jesus meant that He was king of men's hearts.

Pilate thought that Jesus did not seem much like a king, but that He looked like a good man, so he said to the Jews, who were shouting and making a great noise, "I cannot find any fault at all in Him." He said he

would have Jesus beaten and let Him go, but the Jews cried louder, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!"

The great feast called the Passover was going on, and every year Pilate let one prisoner go



Pilate, the judge, was a cruel man, and, though he hated the Jews, yet he wanted them to be friendly to him. He would be blamed very much by the Emperor, and, perhaps lose his office, if there was any trouble.