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**Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet, we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds, we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – everyone to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

Isaiah 53:4-6

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**What I lacked was an understanding and application of the substitutionary atonement of Christ. My lingering guilt and shame were a result of not really understanding that, in addition to forgiveness, my salvation also brought me justification and a right standing with God. The wrath of God that I justly deserved has been completely satisfied by Christ; therefore, God removed the guilt of my sin and granted to me the righteousness of Christ.**

Patty Withers

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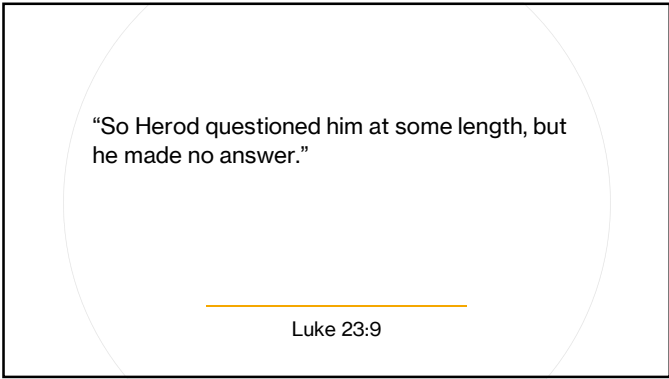
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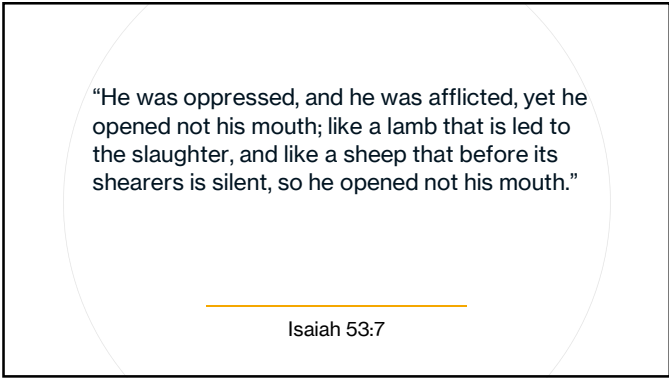
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Jesus' answer, 'So you say' may be equivalent to a sarcastic, 'Whatever' or 'What does it look like to you?'

Ancient readers in the Greco-Roman world would likely view Jesus' refusal to confess as a sign of his brave resistance.

David Garland

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"My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

John 18:36

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"He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

1 Peter 2:22-24

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This is not so much Jesus' resisting the authority of the earthly leaders but of submitting to His heavenly authority.

Jesus is submitting to His Father and drinking "the cup" the Father has given Him to drink – the cup of God's judgment for our sins.



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Jesus has not come for an insurrection. He has come to be a substitution.

He hasn't come to overthrow an earthly kingdom but to humbly submit to a heavenly one.



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"I find no guilt in this man."

Luke 23:4

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"Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him.'"

Luke 23:13-15

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"Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him! A third time he said to them, 'Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will punish and release him.'"

Luke 23:20-22

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“Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, ‘Crucify, crucify him! A third time he said to them, ‘Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will punish and release him.’”

Luke 23:20-22

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“A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.”

Deuteronomy 19:15

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Because Jesus is innocent, all the things said about him in the courtroom of Herod and Pilate are now said about you and me in the courtroom of God.

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“I find no guilt in this man.”

“I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him.”

“Look, nothing deserving death has been done by Him.”

“I have found in him no guilt deserving death.”



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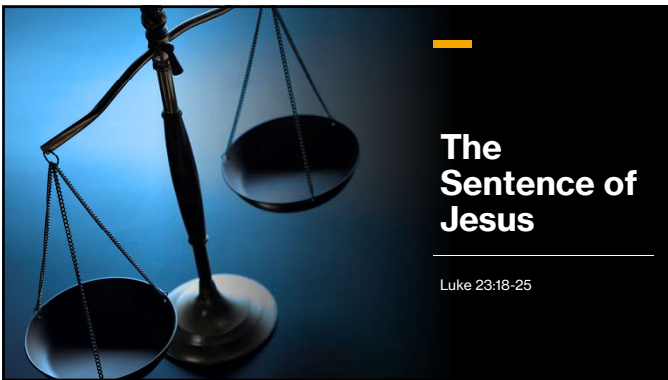
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“But they all cried out together, ‘Away with this man, and release us to Barabbas’ – a man who had been thrown in prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder.”

Deuteronomy 19:15



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The wicked "son of the father" (Barabbas) is exchanged for the righteous "Son of the Father" (Jesus).



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"With the other New Testament writers, Paul always points to the death of Jesus as the atoning event, and explains the atonement in terms of representative substitution – the innocent taking the place of the guilty, in the name and for the sake of the guilty, under the axe of God's judicial retribution"



J.I. Packer, Knowing God

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"For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men."



Romans 5:17-18

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“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

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You can walk away free today because Jesus freely chose not to.

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