

WE ALL HAVE THE SAME CHOICE AS BARABBAS: FOLLOW OR FORGET JESUS.

The Name: "Barabbas"

John 18:38-40

Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him.

³⁹ But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰ They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

The Process

1. Jesus' first time before Pilate: Pilate realizes the issue is envy rather than anything evil in Jesus.
2. Jesus' second time before Pilate: Pilate gives the people an easy choice between Jesus and a hardened criminal.

The Drama and Contrast of Jesus, Pilate, and Barabbas

Who was Barabbas?

- a. **Notorious** – Matthew 27:16 *And they had then a **notorious** prisoner called Barabbas.* Mark 15:7a *And among the rebels in prison, (ESV).*

- b. Had to be bound – Mark 15:7a *And there was one named Barabbas, **which lay bound** with them... (KJV).*
- c. Murderer – Mark 15:7b *...who had committed **murder**...*
- d. Insurrectionist – Mark 15:7c *And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the **insurrection**...*

Truths

- We are capable of going to insane lengths to **avoid** dealing with our guilt and shame.

“Men will always ask for the sinner, not the Savior.” – Warren Wiersbe

- The **Good** Guy laying down his life for the Bad Guy – 1 Peter 3:18a *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God,*
- God loves those we’re tempted to **throw** away.
- We all have the same choice as Barabbas: Follow or **forget** Jesus.