# "The Compelling Power of Christ"  Re-discovering Jesus in the Gospel of John

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# John 18:33-19:16a (ESV)

**33**So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” **34**Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” **35**Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” **36**Jesus answered, “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.” **37**Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” **38**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.

**19**Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. **2**And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. **3**They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. **4**Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” **5**So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” **6**When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” **7**The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” **8**When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. **9**He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. **10**So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” **11**Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to youhas the greater sin.”

**12**From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”**13**So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. **14**Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews,“Behold your King!” **15**They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” **16**So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

1. **Popularity can be more captivating than Jesus**
2. **Safety can be more gripping than Jesus**
3. **Jesus is more compelling than popularity of safety**

**John 10:17-18 (ESV)**

**17**For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. **18**No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”