

Moral Cowardice

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 48

Scripture text – Mark 15:1-20

Introduction

- Moral cowardice is the kind of cowardice in which taking a principled stand is _____ because of its risks, especially the disapproval or hostility of _____.
- Jesus was the _____ of arguably the single greatest act of moral cowardice in _____.

Review

- The Sanhedrin had sentenced Jesus to death for the crime of _____. However, only the Roman governor had the authority to _____ criminals.
- So, the Sanhedrin took Jesus to _____.

About Pilate

- By now, Pilate had been governor for _____ years.
- He was viewed by the emperor as an _____ administrator.
- He had a reputation for _____.
- However, something happened early in his administration to diminish him in the eyes of the Sanhedrin. They knew he could be _____.

King of the Jews

- Before Pilate, Jesus was charged with the crime of _____ for claiming to be king of the Jews.
- Jesus' response was _____. Scholars believe he was _____ the disciples.
- Pilate had a brilliant idea: To go _____ the Sanhedrin to the people, offering a pardon to either Jesus or Barabbas.

- In the end, Pilate felt obliged to “_____ the crowd.” It is this wanting that leads to moral cowardice.

An Present-Day Example

- The cowardice is in refusing to declare _____ a moral evil.
- In addition, your _____ has been cowardly.

Note

- We will now pause our series through *Mark* for 4 weeks.