

# Sermon Notes

## Jesus, Religion & Politics Matthew 27:15-26

Matthew 27:15-18

- John 18:40 Luke 29:13

Matthew 27:19-23

### **The political spirit**

- Matthew 27:22-23 Luke 23:22 Acts 3:13 John 19:12 Matthew 27:24

### The political spirit

- Gets life from pleasing people
- Quickly distances itself from anything that might make them look bad and puts the blame on someone else.
- Puts self-interest above truly loving others

### **The religious spirit**

- Matthew 26:3-4 Matthew 27:59 Mark 3:4-6 Matthew 9:10-13 Matthew 12:24

### The religious spirit

- Gets life from rule following and being right
- Condemns and judges people so they feel superior
- Thinks it needs to earn a position before God
- Judges and condemns anyone who they think is inferior.
- Distances themselves from people in order to maintain their own righteousness

Mark 8:15

- 1 Corinthians 5:6-7
- King David 2 Samuel 11:14-15 2 Samuel 12:5-7

### **Jesus**

- John 1:14 Philippians 2:8 Romans 5:8
- Religion: condemns and judges people so in order to feel superior.
- Jesus: Removes condemnation and gives grace

## Religion vs The Gospel

Religion says do, do, do...

The Gospel says it is finished (John 19:30)

Religion is about what I have to do

The gospel is about what I get to do

Religion says you need to work for forgiveness

The Gospel says you are forgiven

Religion says God will love you if...

The Gospel says I love you now

Religion says you should be motivated by fear

The Gospel says you should be motivated by love

Religion focuses on what I am doing

The Gospel focuses on what Jesus did

Religion sees hardship in life as punishment from God

The Gospel sees that God works all things for good

Religion condemns and criticizes

The Gospel gives life and life to the full (John 10:10)

Religion tries to get life from rule following

The Gospel gives life through Jesus

Religion says I need to earn my position before God

The Gospel says your position before God is a gift

Religion says you should trust in yourself

The Gospel says that you should trust Jesus

Religion is about what I have to do

The Gospel is about what I get to do

Religion is about me

The gospel is about Jesus

Religion ends in either pride or despair

The gospel ends in humble and confident joy because of the power of the resurrected Jesus  
is at work for me