

## Sermon Outline

### Three Big Decisions (Matthew 27:20-22)

Introduction: *This morning we are going to talk about decisions...*

- I. SOME BIG DECISIONS WERE MADE BETWEEN PALM SUNDAY & GOOD FRIDAY
  - A. Jesus is now at trial, & some bad decisions had already been made by Judas, Peter, and the other disciples.
  - B. And now, at Jesus' trial, we meet a faceless crowd, a Roman Governor, & a criminal named Barabbas.
  - C. The 1<sup>st</sup> big decision has to be made by the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate...and he cannot seem to make up his mind (Mathew 27:22-26).
  - D. The 2<sup>nd</sup> big decision is made by the crowd...and it is a surprising decision (vv. 22-26).
  - E. But the truth is, we should not be surprised... what is behind their decision is what is behind our bad decisions today: Sin!
  
- II. THANKFULLY, GOD ALSO MADE A BIG DECISION
  - A. God, in His mercy for sinners, identifies us with Barabbas
  - B. Jesus, Who was given as Barabbas' substitute, is also given as our substitute
  - C. This is "***The Great Exchange***" (2 Corinthians 5:21 & 8:9)
  - D. God's decision for us is called forgiveness

Conclusion: *Barabbas – run, jump, & shout... you are set free!*