

1  **A Contrast of Kingdoms**

2  **God's kingdom calls for response of godly character when the kingdoms of this world view us as fair game for persecution.**

- *"Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?" And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him." (Luke 22:63–65, ESV)*

3  **Those in God's kingdom persist in sharing the truth when the kingdoms of this world consider us a threat.**

- *"When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council..." (Luke 22:66, ESV)*
- *"Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place." (Luke 23:1–5, ESV)*

4  **Those in God's kingdom do not capitulate to the whims of the kingdoms of this world.**

- *"When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate." (Luke 23:8–11, ESV)*

5  **Those in God's kingdom trust in God's eternal plan rather than the convenient choices of the world.**

- *"Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will." (Luke 23:20–25, ESV)*