

“Behold”

*“Behold, I bring Him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in Him.”—
John 19:4*

With only a month until Easter, I am trying to prepare my thoughts to focus on the crucifixion and resurrection of my Savior. I read the passage in John 19 and noticed the number of times that the word, *behold*, appears.

Three of those utterances came from Pilate. It seemed like the Holy Spirit was saying, “Behold, look closely at this—pay attention.” When I paid attention this is what I noticed.

The first “behold” statement appears in verse 4. In this verse, Pilate says look closely, I find no fault with this man. Jesus was faultless, totally innocent. So why didn’t Pilate release Jesus? Why did he have our Savior scourged? We will never know the reason for certain but I think it was probably to please the crowd. And how many people today allow Jesus to be abused because they want to please the crowd.

The second “behold” statement is found in verse 5. Pilate again is speaking, look closely and “behold the man”. Was he trying to stir the crowd’s sympathy so he could release Jesus? Would they see that he was a man worthy of compassion? Pilate had him beaten just short of death. Would that be enough to appease the crowd?

Pilate tried to please the crowd. He has tried to placate the religious leaders. It did not work the crowd wanted to rid their lives of the Holy Son of God.

Pilate’s third “behold” statement is found in verse 14. Look closely and “Behold your King!” We really do not know Pilate’s intent but I believe he unwittingly made a prophetic statement. “That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and of things under the earth and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father—Philippians 2:10-11.

We have looked closely and we have seen the faultless Son of God, we have seen Jesus who became man and endured the cross for us, and we see the King of Kings.