

# **“Washing Our Hands”**

## **Matt. 27:15-26**

### Introduction

- I. Pontius Pilate had an opportunity to stop the process of putting Jesus to death, but instead he attempted to absolve himself of all culpability.
- II. To this day, we use the statement “I wash my hands of...” to mean that we excuse ourselves from situations.
- III. While we are might be appalled by Pilate's actions, do we try to do similarly?

### Discussion

- I. Parents can try to “wash their hands” of their parental responsibilities.
  - A. God expects parents to teach their children about Him and His ways (Deut. 6:6-7; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4).
  - B. Eli is an example of what can happen if why try to “wash our hands” in regards to our children (1 Sam. 2:12-13, 22-24).
- II. Elders can try to “wash their hands” of the local congregation.
  - A. Elders have a grave responsibility to “oversee” the flock (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-3).
  - B. Neglecting their responsibilities will be grounds for punishment on the Day of Judgment (1 Pet. 5:4; Heb. 13:17).
- III. Christians can try to “wash their hands” of church fellowship.
  - A. Every child of God became a part of “the fellowship” of Jesus Christ by obeying the Gospel (1 Cor. 1:9).
  - B. Christians are to be faithful to the congregation of which they belong (Col. 1:21-23; Heb. 3:14; Matt. 24:45-51).

### Conclusion

- I. If we are honest, then we will acknowledge that Pilate was not able to “wash his hands of the Lord.”
- II. We also need to be honest that we cannot “wash our hands” of the responsibilities that God has given us.