0. THE DEATH SENTENCE - Story Preface

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This image depicts an oil-on-canvas painting by Tintoretto (Jacopo Comin) - entitled Ecce Homo ("Behold the Man") - which he created between 1566-67. Online, courtesy Web Gallery of Art.

When Pilate realized even Herod had not condemned Jesus, he tried to reason with the assembly who'd brought the charges in the first place.

> *You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.*

The assembly reminded Pilate he had to release a prisoner during the Passover feast. They asked for Barabbas, a man imprisoned for murder and leading insurrection in the city. Unconvinced, Pilate pleaded with the crowd as they shouted to crucify Jesus:

> *Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore, I will have him punished and then release him.*

Still clamoring for Barabbas, the crowd pressed Pilate to put Jesus to death. By this time, Jesus was wearing both the purple robe and a crown of thorns. Pilate told the crowd:

> *Here is the man!*

The people shouted for His crucifixion. Pilate told them:

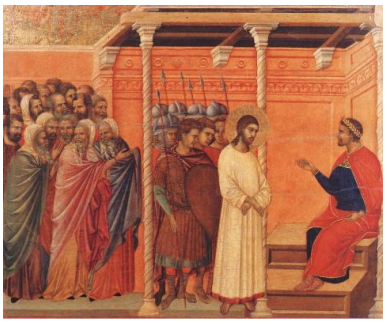
> *You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him.*

Washing his hands, to absolve himself of any responsibility, Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-DEATH-SENTENCE-Easter-Story

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-DEATH-SENTENCE-Easter-Story

Media Stream



Trial of Jesus - Second Interrogation by Pilate

Image online, courtesy Wikipaintings.org website.
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Trial of Jesus - Crown of Thorns

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Trial of Jesus - Pilate Talks with the Crowd

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Trial of Jesus - Pilate Washes His Hands

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Trial of Jesus - Barabbas is Set Free

Clip from *Barabbas*, a 1962 film.

Directed by: Richard Fleischer

Writen by: Pär Lagerkvist (novel)
Christopher Fry (screenplay)

Released: October 10, 1962 (in the U.S.)

Starring:

Anthony Quinn - Barabbas
Arthur Kennedy - Pontius Pilate
Jack Palance - Torvald

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