

# John 19:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!

## Analysis

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**It was the preparation of the passover** (ἦν δὲ παρασκευὴ τοῦ πάσχα/ēn de paraskeuē tou pascha)—Jesus is sentenced exactly when Passover lambs were being prepared for slaughter. The timing is divinely orchestrated: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us (1 Corinthians 5:7). **About the sixth hour**—John uses Roman time (6 AM), when temple priests began Passover preparations, though some see this as 12 noon.

Pilate's final, bitter taunt: **Behold your King!** (Ἴδε ὁ βασιλεὺς ὑμῶν/Ide ho basileus hymōn). He presents the thorn-crowned, scourged, purple-robed Jesus in savage mockery—'This is your king?' Yet Pilate's sarcasm becomes prophetic truth. This bruised, bleeding figure IS their king, though they won't acknowledge it. The rejection is now complete: 'We have no king but Caesar' (v.15)—renouncing messianic hope, covenant identity, everything distinctive about Israel.

## Historical Context

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Passover commemorated Israel's deliverance from Egypt when the lamb's blood protected from judgment (Exodus 12). For centuries, faithful Jews had slain Passover lambs looking forward to God's ultimate deliverance. Now the true Lamb stands condemned at the very hour Passover lambs are being selected for sacrifice. The entire sacrificial system pointed to this moment.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the precise timing of Jesus's condemnation during Passover preparation reveal God's sovereignty over history?
2. What does Israel's cry 'We have no king but Caesar' reveal about the final state of a heart that rejects God's rule?
3. In what ways do we present Jesus mockingly before the world while He remains King regardless of our acknowledgment?

## Interlinear Text

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|           |       |                 |       |                 |       |       |          |
|-----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|----------|
| ἦν        | δὲ    | παρασκευὴ       | τοῦ   | πάσχα           | ώρα   | δὲ    | ὥσει     |
| it was    | And   | the preparation | G3588 | of the passover | hour  | And   | about    |
| G2258     | G1161 | G3904           |       | G3957           | G5610 | G1161 | G5616    |
| ἑκτῇ      | καὶ   | λέγει           | τοῖς  | Ἰουδαίοις       | Ἴδε   | ὁ     | βασιλεὺς |
| the sixth | and   | he saith        | G3588 | unto the Jews   | G1492 | G3588 | King     |
| G1623     | G2532 | G3004           |       | G2453           |       |       | G935     |
| ὑμῶν      |       |                 |       |                 |       |       |          |
| your      |       |                 |       |                 |       |       |          |
| G5216     |       |                 |       |                 |       |       |          |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 27:62** (Parallel theme): Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate,

**John 19:5** (Parallel theme): Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!

**Mark 15:25** (Parallel theme): And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

**John 19:42** (Parallel theme): There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

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