

Pilate: this is your life script

Yes, Pontius Pilate, this is your life. And what an interesting life it's been so far!!

You were born in the Samnium region of Italy in 10 BC... (First slide) Here's a lovely picture of you as a baby, already dressing up as a roman soldier... Did you like dressing up as child?

Later, you attended school, where you excelled in maths (next slide). In fact, why don't you show off your maths skill now... How much is X times VI? (**60!!!**)

While at school, you never lost your love of dressing up (next slide) – I mean, getting ready for military life...

And of course, when you turned sixteen, you did in fact join the imperial roman army as a junior officer.

(next slide) Here's a photo of you practising one of the Roman army's most famous battle formation. What's this formation called again? (**Testudo – means 'Tortoise'**)

Now tell me, do you recognise this voice?

Voice from off stage. (“He was a lovely man, even if he wasn't as strong willed as I would have liked. Still, I did my best to whip him into shape!”)

Yes, it's your childhood sweetheart, your lovely wife, Claudia!

Do take a seat, Claudia...

And as you're getting yourself settled, I think (show next slide), yes, we've got a picture of your wedding day! Ah, look at you both... Claudia, you're as beautiful now as you were then, and Pontius, you're looking... older!

So, Claudia, what's it like being married this handsome chap!

Thank you, Claudia!

Well as your career progressed, you were given more and more responsibility (show next slide) Here you are leading your men into battle (next slide) and here's one of you commanding one of Roman's Legions.

And then you had a change of direction in your career. Do you remember what it was? ... Yes, that's right! Emperor Tiberius appointed you Prefect of the Roman Provinces of Judaea, Samaria and Idumæa. And in fact, (next slide) here's a picture of you looking a bit important in your Prefect Robes, while sitting on the judgement seat in Jerusalem.

Were those happy days for you, Pontius?

Of course, it's your time as Prefect of Judea that you are especially well known for. Do you still remember what or rather, who, made you so memorable, Pontius? **(Jesus)**

Yes, of course, it was sentencing that Jewish itinerant rabbi called Jesus to death by crucifixion, that your most remembered for. (next slide)

And here's a picture of Jesus standing there in front of you. You do look like you're actually pleading with him. Why was that Pontius?...

And Claudia, dear Claudia, if I can just bring you back in for a moment, I think that you actually had a dream about this Jesus, didn't you? Do you remember anything about that dream?...

Yes, in your recently published autobiography, 'Jesus, Pontius, and Me,' you claimed that your dream convinced you that Jesus was an innocent man, and that you pleaded with Pontius not to go ahead with the crucifixion? How did you feel when Pontius felt he had to go ahead and keep the angry mob of Jews happy?

Thank you, once again, Claudia.

But Pontius, as we finish this part of This Is Your Life, apart from executing the man who some believed to be the genuine Messiah, the actual Son of God, you did something else that you became world famous for, didn't you... (next slide)

You famously washed your hands of the whole affair, and even though you believed that this Jesus had not done anything wrong, you sent him off to be crucified...

Pontius Pilate, this is your life...

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