“Who Do You Say I Am?”
Claudia (Pilate’s Wife)
by
Skit Guys Studios

What
The wife of Pilate agonizes over a nightmare that came with a message.
Themes: Easter, Good Friday, Passion Week, Crucifixion

Who
Claudia- Pilate’s Wife

When
Bible times

Wear
Bible costume fit for Claudia. She should be dressed in finer clothes than, say, a commoner or someone lower class (i.e. bright colors, shinier fabrics). She may wear jewelry, but consistent with the period (i.e. dangling earrings, statement necklaces, bangle bracelets, nothing plastic).
You may go as small (simple chair) or as big with the set as you’d like. Colorful vases, fabrics draped, ornate rugs, etc. If you have access to a chaise lounge, she could use that to sit on.
Music to accompany this piece is available for purchase and download at SkitGuys.com.

Why
Matthew 27:19

How
It’s important not just to relay this story, but to relive it. Claudia experienced the things she is saying, so really paint a picture with your words and your actions. Your mission is to help the audience believe that they are right there with you...to feel what it’s like to have this nightmare, a warning, and no one will listen.
See more “How” at the end of this script.

For more ideas on how to perform this script, watch the video “Who Do You Say I Am: Claudia” at SkitGuys.com.

Time
Approximately 3 minutes
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*CUE MUSIC (if using) Claudia is confident but she has been shaken to her core. There is terror in her eyes.*

Claudia: It was a nightmare. Or was it? I walk around thinking it really happened.

That dream, it won’t leave me…of all the people to have a dream about Him, why me?

*Trying to look a bit more confident than she feels.*

Call him a criminal, call him a lunatic, whatever you want. All I know is this: Jesus claimed to have a direct connection to God.

*She slumps, the confidence she’d mustered already dissolving.*

The nightmares…they came with a message.

What do I do with this message? What if the nightmare was sent from the devil himself…

…to thwart the plans of this man who they say saves souls? Or what if it was an angel? Saying his time has come to rule the world? I did the only thing I could do,

*See the additional idea in staging and action for Pilate at the end of this script.*

…even though it meant my husband and I could lose our privileged positions. I sent a note to him—

“My husband, have nothing to do with that man, Jesus.”

The Jews would’ve surely rioted. The city was already heaving with people from the Passover.

I can only pretend to know what real power feels like, for I am only married to it.

Does innocent blood run warmer on his hands? Does regret steal his sleep?

Whatever the case, he did not listen to me.

His followers say he will come back to life. Let me assure you, there is no coming back from what he succumbed to.

*Working through emotions.*

Who do I say that he is? This man who stood stoically as he was beaten and ridiculed and tortured…
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…this man who taught peacefully as far as I could ever tell…

…who claimed things I had never seen another human being claim.

*Additional staging: If you have the available resources and space, on the opposite side of the stage, have Pilate there holding the unrolled scroll his wife sent. The lights come up on this scene. He is obviously troubled as well. A servant is standing behind him and Pilate waves him off to leave. The lights fade.

More How:

Because Claudia is troubled and anxious, pacing back and forth is a natural reaction. When using pacing for your blocking (the actor’s action), be intentional with your steps. Don’t shuffle your feet. For instance, mark in your script where you will walk to one side and then back to the other side, etc.

Pause.

I have no idea who he was. But it doesn’t matter. He’s dead.