

GLEANINGS

Article GE- 109

THE MAJORITY ARE NOT ALWAYS RIGHT.

¹³Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “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. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.” ¹⁸With one voice they cried out, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” ¹⁹(Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. ²¹But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” ²²For the third time he spoke to them: “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.” ²³But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. Luke 23:13-23 New International Version

We find in the scripture quoted above that the majority of the people called for the release of a condemned murderer, Barabbas. They called for the crucifixion of the sinless Son of God. Why would the people want those things to be done? Because their leaders convinced them that it was the right thing to do. They followed in blind obedience! We find in the Book of Acts that the people allowed their religious leaders to continue the persecution and sometimes execution of the members of the local church that Jesus had established in Jerusalem.

This reminds us of the circumstances the saved will experience in the near future. Jesus Christ was targeted for death by the leaders of His day. The saved in the Book of Acts were targeted for discrimination and possible annihilation in their day. Just before the catching up, laws will be enforced that will be aimed at discrimination of those who follow biblical teachings and seek to share God’s Divine Word. Moreover, the majority of our citizens will give their silent consent.