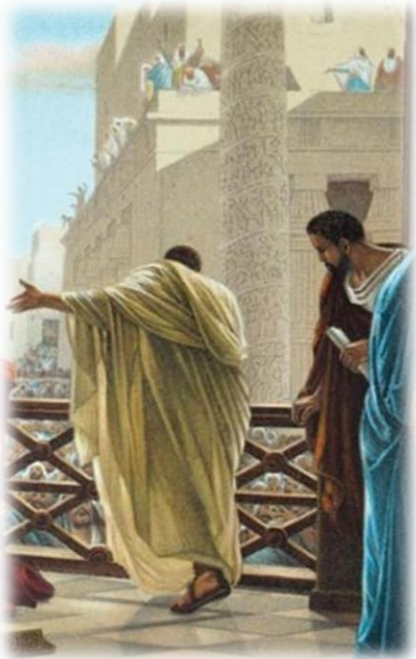# Rock Solid Evidence

The Roman governor, Pontius Pilate is famous for being the man who

allowed the Lord Jesus Christ to be crucified, despite declaring His innocence: *"So Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowd, 'I find no fault in this Man.'"* (Luke 23:4).

Recently archaeologists from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem turned their attention to an old copper ring from a royal palace, near Bethlehem, which

contains this man's name. It is written backwards (implying its use as a seal for documents), and the simple inscription says 'PILATO' in Greek script, meaning 'belongs to Pilate.'

In the centre is a Jewish-style wine flask, as used in Bible times.

The ring is a remarkable find which was uncovered back in the 1960s but only recently put forward for cleaning. Thanks to a new form of photographic imaging the inscription can be precisely seen and interpreted as belonging to this historical, Biblical character.

All this reminds us that the Bible is a book of history, not fiction. And that includes the events in the Gospels concerning the Lord Jesus. That is why we should take its message seriously today.