

## **The Trial**

John 18 – 19-16

A recap of the last 24 hour of Jesus' life.

The towel and the basin > John 13 (Pastor Jerry)

- Jesus perform the role of a servant –

The Meal > John 13 (Pastor Nick)

- Jesus took the old tradition of the Passover and introduced a new meaning, new prophecies, new commandment, new promise of new hope and a new covenant.

The Garden > Luke 22 (Pastor Jerry)

- Jesus looked for companionship as he faced the Father's cup

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To gather some background, go back with me the very first chapter of John, v 9-11

**The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.**

John purpose in writing his gospel was to reveal Jesus as the promised Messiah who is the Son of God and that believing in his name you will have eternal life.

John wants his readers to know that Jesus is a choice for life, light and truth, which represent God, but Jesus is also a choice against light for darkness, truth for falsehood and life for death.

So now, we approach the question of why is Jesus on Trial. Here are six main points:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Jesus threatened to destroy the Jewish Temple | Matt 26:61    |
| 2. He was accused of being a n evil doer         | John 18:30    |
| 3. Charged with perverting the nation            | Luke 23:2     |
| 4. Forbidding Jews to pay taxes to Caesar        | Luke 23:2     |
| 5. Made himself a King                           | Luke 23:2     |
| 6. Claimed to be God                             | Matt 26:63,64 |

These were serious accusations but the real reason for the Jewish leader's hatred was Jesus proclaimed to be the unique Son of God, which they judged to be blasphemous. John 5:23, 24

**Turn with now to John 18: 1 – 11 – [READ IT]**

Notice in V4:

Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?”

- Jesus does not hide or panic but instead come forward and confront the group!
  - The Fearless ‘Good Shepherd’

Notice in V10:

Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.)

- Luke tell us Jesus healed the man’s ear to show those around him who he is.
  - The Compassionate ‘Good Shepherd’

Notice V11:

So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

- Jesus tells Peter the sword is neither the way nor the will of the Father.
- The Mission of the ‘Good Shepherd’

**I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”**

So now Jesus is taken from the disciples and led to the High Priest Caiaphas to be questioned, meanwhile Peter is out hanging by the fire seeking its warmth while the Light of the World is captured by the Power of Darkness.

**Turn with to John 18: 28 thru 19: 1- 16 – [READ IT]**

John presents (7) scenes that alternate between the Jewish opponents on the outside and Jesus on the inside with Pilate going back and forth between them.

## **1. OUTSIDE – v 28-32**

Motive: The Jews demand Jesus' death.

Why? They claim he was an evildoer!

What evil? Did they forget he opened the eyes of the blind, raised the dead, healed the sick and even feed 5 thousand?

Hypocrisy? They were more concerned about defiling themselves all the while they were plotting Jesus' death!

## **2. INSIDE – v33-38**

Pilate questions about being a king

Jesus neither denies nor affirms the question but rather probes Pilate's heart not as a Governor but as human being looking for a response.

Pilate response is rejection!

Jesus continues his probe and discusses the 'Kingdom' with Pilate. In Pilate's world, it is one of power and protection and must be fiercely guarded – What is different today?

Jesus' Kingdom is his self-surrender to the Father's will by offering himself. Jesus wants Pilate to see the obvious contrast between who he is and the falsehood of his opponents and by doing so bear witness the he is truth!

**“Truth is a very uncomfortable thing when we come face to face with it”**

What do you do when you are confronted with the truth?

Do you ignore it, justify your actions, or just pass the blame?

How does Pilate respond to the truth incarnate? He dismisses it!

**The one who sits a Judge has just been judged and found self-condemned by his response to Jesus**

**What is your response to Jesus?**

## **3. OUTSIDE – V38-40**

Pilate comes outside again to face Jesus' opponents to proclaim, “He finds no guilt in him and offers to release Jesus – but no, they reject Jesus and request Barabbas. A man convicted of murder and revolting against Rome.

**Here is the irony – the crowd and chief priests wanted the murdered rather than the Savior – they chose the destroyer rather than the Life Giver. Just like in the Garden – they chose to listen to themselves rather than God and caused their own destruction – Kicked out of the Garden and separated from God**

#### **4. INSIDE – 19:1-3**

Jesus is flogged and mocked by the soldiers and here the power of darkness reigns!

- Crown of thorns – pierced his head to give the effect of a starburst, which would imitate a deified ruler.
- Purple Robe – a mock of royalty
- Struck him - instead of the kiss of greeting, they struck the King of Glory

#### **5. OUTSIDE – V4-8**

Pilate declares Jesus innocent yet mocks him to the Jews as poor helpless man!

Pilate shows his arrogance by displaying him wearing a Kings outfit but he is no threat to him, which infuriates the chief priest so they cry out “Crucify Him”

Pilate again taunts them by saying I find no guilt, and they boldly use the Law to proclaim he is to die because he made himself the Son of God.

They declare he is a blasphemer and therefore must die

**Lev 24:16 - Whoever blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death**

In their minds he is a false prophet and is cursed by God.

**Deut 21: 22, 23 - And if a man has committed a crime punishable by death and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree his body shall not remain all night on the tree, but you shall bury him the same day, for a hanged man is cursed by God.**

#### **6. INSIDE – V9-11**

Pilate and Jesus go back inside and talk about power.

Notice – Jesus is in control & Pilate is being worn out.

- Pilate flaunts his power and authority.
- Jesus responds that his power and authority is not his own but has been given to him from above.
- Jesus confronts Pilate about his sin and the sin of those who delivered him.

Sadly Pilate do not get it – his sin is not for administering justice to a man he know is innocent but is more concerned with his position and maintaining control.

The crowd sin is their rejection of Jesus!

## **7. OUTSIDE –V12-16**

The Jews obtain Jesus Death

The cycle of guilt comes full circle –  
The Jews hand Jesus to Pilate  
Pilate hand Jesus to the Jews

The Jews declare Caesar as their King and by doing so reject the God they boldly  
proclaim they worship and serve!

**JESUS' TRIAL WOUND UP TO BE A JUDGMENT AGAINST ALL THOSE  
WHO ACCUSED HIM AND THOSE WHO JUDGED AND SENTENCED HIM**

**JESUS FACED MAN'S INJUSTICE SO WE HAVE TO FACE GOD'S JUSTICE!**