

Series: The Trials of Jesus
"The Second Trial" # 2
2-25-18 Sun AM
Matt 26:57-68, 27:1

This morning we began a six week series leading up to the crucifixion on Good Friday [preparation day] and the resurrection on Sunday morning.

The **six mock trials** or kangaroo court is divided into 3 religious trials and 3 civil trials. The trials started at 2:00 am on Good Friday.

The **religious trials** by the Jews consisted of his presence before Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin. He was found guilty in these trials. The **civil trials** by the Romans consisted of his presence before Pilate, Herod Antipas, and Pilate again.

TT- This morning we see the second trial from 2:30 am to about 5:00 am.

The charge would be that Jesus claimed to be the Messiah and thus the Son of God. **The trial was illegal** because it was held at night at the house of the high priest. The witnesses were perjured as their witness was not truthful.

TT- Note how Caiaphas progressed with his illegal trial.

I. The Courtroom Setting (26:57-58).

We noted the relationship between Annas and Caiaphas last week. Jesus appeared before the former high priest first, the father-in-law of Caiaphas. Annas asked Jesus about his disciples and His doctrine. They wanted to make Jesus look like a schemer who worked secretly to usurp Rome.

The Religious trials were not seeking truth because the verdict was predetermined already [John 11:49-53].

This interrogation before Annas was more on a fishing expedition for information to justify a crime for the death sentence which was already predetermined.

The high priest was to serve till death but when the Romans took over the nation they made the high priest an appointed office and thus they were assured of a high priest who would cooperate with them.

Caiaphas was priest from AD 18-36 but Annas controlled the power behind the scenes. Both Annas and Caiaphas were Sadducees who managed the temple business. They certainly were not pleased with Jesus.

They were hostile biased judges. Caiaphas had already passed judgment on Jesus to save the nation (John 11:47-54).

Caiaphas assembled some of the Sanhedrin- chief priests, the elders, and the scribes and began the search for false witnesses and make a show of a legal trial.

- Again this was illegal as well- Criminal trials were not to be held at night and capital cases were to be held at the temple and in public.
- They did not have a quorum of the Sanhedrin present.

I. The Courtroom Setting (26:57-58).

II. The Case Interrogated (26:59-64).

1. vs. 59-62- False Witnesses.

The Law of Moses warned against false witnesses (Deut. 19:15-21), but the two witnesses perjured themselves.

Jesus did make the statement 3 years ago speaking of his body (John 2:19). Mark 14:56-59 more clearly speaks of their perjury.

v. 62- Jesus does not answer fulfilling Isaiah 53:7. Jesus could not explain the spiritual meaning to a bunch of spiritually dead men who were not seeking truth.

2. vs. 62-64- Jesus under oath.

Caiaphas then puts Jesus under oath. I adjure you (command you under oath).

Jesus replies here because He obeyed the law. Note v. 64.

Caiaphas was looking for a charge of blasphemy and he got it.

Jesus applied Psalm 110:1 and Dan. 7:13 to Himself in these two messianic passages. Here Jesus presents his resurrection, ascension, and coming again in this one verse.

I. The Courtroom Setting (26:57-58).

II. The Case Interrogated (26:59-64).

III. The Verdict Rendered (26:65-68-27:1).

Caiaphas passed sentence, he got the reply he wanted. No more witnesses were needed. **Q-** Do you think he rent his clothes in grief?

Isaiah 50:6 was fulfilled in vs.67-68.

Matthew does not record the third trial before the Sanhedrin (Matt. 27:1-2) the third trial is in between vs. 1 and 2 and recorded in Luke 22:63-71.

Turn to one of the most sobering passages in Scripture, **Isaiah 53:4-6**