

Series: The Trials of Jesus
"The Third Trial" # 3
3-4-18 Sun AM
Luke 22:63-71

We are in part three of 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 third trial around 6 am on Friday morning (Good Friday or the Day of Preparation).

We taught the second religious trial last week before Caiaphas where there was not an official sentence of death because the whole Sanhedrin (70 or 72) was not present and the trial was at night.

The Jewish trials were illegal in several violations:

1. The judges were not impartial. The judges took part in the arrest and were hostile to the accused.
2. The arrest was illegal because there was no crime or charges.
3. The trials were held at night which was illegal.
4. A verdict of guilty could not be rendered on the same day as the trial.
5. The search for hostile witnesses was illegal.
6. No accused could be convicted on his own testimony.
7. No valid evidence was presented.

I. The Mocking (22:63-65).

All this mistreatment fulfilled prophecy.

Isa 50:6, I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

Q- How should we respond when sinners ridicule us and our faith? (1 Peter 2:18-25).

II. Two Key Questions (22:66-71).

1. Are you the Messiah? (22:66-69).

They were sure he was guilty of blasphemy and the penalty was death. Jesus did not answer them because their hearts were hardened and they were not seeking truth.

All his teaching healing and miracles proved he was the Messiah, yet they could not see. In a way Jesus was showing mercy because more truth rejected brings stricter judgment.

v. 69- Jesus calls himself "Son of Man."

A messianic title found in Dan. 7:13-14 and had the right to sit on the right hand of God (Ps. 110:1). The right hand of the Father was a place of honor, and power, and thus claiming to be God.

Let's turn back to Matt. 26:63-64 in the second trial where Jesus responded the same and Jesus applied Psalm 110:1 and Dan. 7:13 to Himself in these two messianic passages. Jesus presents his resurrection, ascension, and coming again in this one verse.

2. Are you the Son of God? (22:70-71).

Jesus replies, "Yes I am." He is the great "I AM." This name for God points to His self-existence and eternality; it denotes "I am the One who is and will be,"

It would be this testimony that they would bring to Pilate claiming he was in rebellion to Caesar.

23:1- The third "religious trial" was now over. The next step was to put Him through a civil trial and convince the Roman governor that Jesus of Nazareth was a criminal worthy of death because of treason or insurrection.

Matthew Henry wrote, "There are none so blind as those that will not see."