

The Last Week Of Jesus' Life

Caiaphas And The Jewish Trial

Matthew 26:57, 59-68; Mark 14:53, 55-65;
Luke 22:54, 63-65; John 18:24

September 21, 2022

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Caiaphas And The Jewish Trial

Matthew 26:57, 59-68; Mark 14:53, 55-65; Luke 22:54, 63-65; John 18:19-24

- John 18:19-24 – The Jewish phase of Jesus' trial – Annas the high priest questions Jesus.
- Annas was regarded by the Jews as the legitimate high priest.
- It was at this point that the disciples of Jesus forsook him and fled. (cf. Matthew 26:56)
- It was before Annas that Jesus was questioned and this resulted in Jesus being brought before the Sanhedrin.
- Caiaphas, was the son-in-law of Annas who was appointed by the Romans to be high priest when they deposed Annas.
- Later it was Caiaphas who presided over the Sanhedrin court, their highest court of law.

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Matthew 26:57, 59-68; Mark 14:53, 55-65;
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Caiaphas

- Appointed by the Romans (18-36 AD).
- Prophesied: *"But a certain one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said unto them . . . do ye take account that it is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. Now this he said not of himself; but, being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation."* John 11:49-51

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Caiaphas

John 11:53, *"So from that day forth they took counsel that they might put him to death."*

- They agreed not to take Jesus during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.
Matthew 26:3-5; Mark 14:1-2; Luke 22:1-2
- Shortly after Judas bargained to betray Jesus.
Luke 22:5, *"And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money."*
- As high priest and president of the Sanhedrin, Caiaphas presided over the trial.

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Illegal aspects of the procedure of Jesus' trial.

- **It took place at night.** "Let a capital offense be tried during the day, but suspend at night." (The Jewish *Mishna*)
- **The court convened before the offering of morning sacrifices.** (Talmud)
- **The court decreed death to Jesus before He had been formally accused of any crime.**
 - Alexander Taylor Innes, in *The Trial of Jesus Christ*, reveals that "until they [the witnesses] spoke, and spoke in the public assembly, the prisoner was scarcely [never] an accused man. When they spoke, and the evidence of two agreed together, it formed a legal charge, libel or indictment, as well as the evidence for its truth."

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Illegal aspects of the procedure of Jesus' trial.

- The court (presided over by Caiaphas) sought testimony of false witnesses. (Mark 14:55-65; cf. Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15)
- Finally, false witnesses misquoted Jesus. cf. John 2:19-21
- Witnesses did not agree. Mark 14:59
- Jesus was *"adjured"* (placed under oath), and forced to testify against himself. Matthew 26:63
- Jesus accused of blasphemy and condemned.
Mark 14:63-64; cf. Leviticus 24:16

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Outrages against Jesus.

Mark 14:65, “Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, ‘Prophesy!’ And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.” NKJV

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Illegal aspects of the procedure of Jesus’ trial.

- ▶ The entire trial was conducted within a single day, with sentence passed, and execution completed.
- ▶ In less than twenty-four hours Jesus was arrested, tried, condemned, and actually executed.
 - Two witnesses necessary to convict and must be rendered on another day.
 - The testimony of one witness could acquit on the same day.
- This trial was conducted on a day preceding a Jewish Sabbath, also on the first day of the feast of unleavened bread and on the eve of the Passover. This was prohibited and forbidden; yet the provision was ignored.

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Illegal aspects of the procedure of Jesus’ trial.

Jesus was actually examined privately not before the whole court; 23 members had to be present to render a verdict.

- Before Annas he appeared privately
- Before Caiaphas he was privately examined
- Before Pilate there was a private hearing
- Before Herod he was tried by a single judge
- Finally before Pilate again he appeared before one judge.

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The Council And The Day Trial

Matthew 27:1-2; Mark 15:1;
Luke 22:66-71

After Daybreak Friday Morning ...

Luke 22:66, “As soon as it was day.”

The whole council met in formal session. Jesus led into their midst and the trial began anew, but this time no false witnesses were produced.

“Immediately, in the morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council; and they bound Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate.” Mark 15:1 NKJV

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The Council And The Day Trial

Matthew 27:1-2; Mark 15:1;
Luke 22:66-71

After Daybreak Friday Morning ...

Luke 22:66, “As soon as it was day.”

Luke 22:67-23:1, “If thou art the Christ, tell us.

- “But he said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe: and if I ask (you), ye will not answer. But from henceforth shall the Son of man be seated at the right hand of the power of God.
- “And they all said, Art thou then the Son of God? And he said unto them, Ye say that I am.
- “And they said, What further need have we of witness? for we ourselves have heard from his own mouth. And the whole company of them rose up, and brought him before Pilate.” ASV

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Conclusion:

- Jesus was up all night, endured physical abuse, – bound, slapped, spit upon, struck with the fist while blindfolded, mocked, and beaten.
- When questioned by Annas, Jesus told him to question those who had heard the things He had spoken.
- Before the Sanhedrin, Jesus had nothing to say in His own defense.
 - When “adjured,” He confessed his deity

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Conclusion:

- Later when taken to Pilate, Jesus spoke to him privately, but not a word before the rulers and chief priest.
- **Isaiah 53:7**, *“He was oppressed, yet when he was afflicted he opened not his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.”* ASV

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The Last Week Of Jesus’ Life

Pilate And The Roman Trial

Matthew 27:11-14; Mark 15:2-5; Luke 23:1-5; John 18:28-38

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Pilate And The Roman Trial

**Matthew 27:11-14; Mark 15:2-5; Luke 23:1-5;
John 18:28-38**

Pontius Pilate –

- Appointed Roman procurator of Judea, Samaria, and Idumea in 26 AD.
- Offensive to the Jews:
 - Soldiers carried standards bearing the likeness of the emperor into Jerusalem.
 - He took money from the temple treasury to build an aqueduct to Jerusalem.
 - He put golden shields inscribed with portraits of the emperor in Herod’s palace.
 - He mingled the blood of some Galileans with their sacrifices. Luke 13:1
 - He slaughtered and imprisoned many of the Samaritans gathered at Mount Gerizim to search for artifacts.

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