

JESUS ON TRIAL
Text: Matthew 27:22

INTRO: Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus was tried before the Jewish high court, then by Roman authorities. Today we will consider the charges made against Him, so that we may decide for ourselves the question Pilate asked in our text.

A. His Jewish trial consisted of 3 stages:

1. Examination by Annas, JN 18:12—13
2. Pre-dawn (illegal ?) trial by Caiaphas & the Sanhedrin, Mark 14:53—65.

3. Formal trial, after dawn, to give an air of legitimacy legal sanction to the verdict that had already been reached during the night, LK 22:66—71.

RESULT: Mark 14:61-64, But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, & coming with the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?" And they all condemned Him to be worthy of death.

B. The Roman trial also consisted of 3 stages:

1. The first examination by Pilate, JN 18:28-38.
2. Sent to Herod Antipas, Luke 23:6-12.
3. Before Pilate a final time, 1f 27:15-26.

RESULT: John 19:12-16, From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gab-batha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the 6th hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your

King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away.

C. Today, Jesus is on trial before us. I ask you to examine the evidence. You are the jury. Don't be like Pilate & let mob rule decide for you. Weigh the evidence and take action accordingly.

I. THE TESTIMONY OF THE PROPHETS CONCERNING HIM.

A. Moses (1500): The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear. (Deut 18:15).

B. David (1,000): The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand till I make Your enemies Your foot stool." The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies. (Psa 110:1-2)

C. Isaiah (740): Isa 53:4-7, Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, & afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

D. Simeon: Luke 2:25-32, And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just & devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, & the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to

the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

E. John Baptist: John 1:29

II. THE TESTIMONY OF JEHOVAH GOD. Matt. 3:17; 17:6

III. THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS' FRIENDS.

- A. A blind man healed by Him: Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that tho I was blind, now I see. (John 9:25).
- B. Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin: John 3:2.
- C. The apostle Thomas, John 20:28.
- D. Simon Peter, Acts 2:36.
- E. The apostle John, John 1:1-3, 14.

IV. NOW, LET US REVIEW THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST JESUS AS HE STOOD BEFORE PILATE.

And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this fellow perverting the nation & forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ, a king. (Luke 23:2).

V. THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS REGARDING THE CHARGES.

- A. The nature of His kingdom, John 18:33-39
- B. Paying taxes to Caesar, Luke 20:22-25.

VI. THE TESTIMONY OF HIS NON-JEWISH ADVOSARIES.

- A. Pilate: Luke 23:13-15.
- B. Pilate's wife, "that just man" MT 27:19
- C. The Roman centurian, Matt. 27:54

VI. AND TWO MORE JEWISH WITNESSES.

- A. Judas Iscariot: Matt. 27:3-4
- B. The penitent robber, Luke 23:39-41

CONCLUSION: The facts are before you. You must answer the same question Pilate once faced. What will you do with Jesus? But before you make your final decision, be reminded that someday, just as Pilate, you too must stand before Jesus. He will be the judge & then the question will be What will He do with you?

I AM SATISFIED

I am satisfied with Jesus, He has done so much for me.
He has suffered to redeem me, He has died to set me free.
He is with me in my trials, best of friends of all is He.
I can always count on Jesus. Can He always count on me?

I can hear the voice of Jesus calling out so pleadingly,
"Go & win the lost & straying." Is He satisfied with me?
When my work on earth is ended & I cross the mystic sea,
O, that I could hear Him saying, "I am satisfied with thee."

I am satisfied, I am satisfied. I am satisfied with Jesus.
But the question comes to me as I think of Calvary,
Is my Master satisfied with me?