

The Sham Trials of Jesus

Matthew 26: 57-68

December 3, 2023

Verse 57 - 58

Jesus' Second Sham Trial

Jesus' Six Trials

Religious Trials

Before Annas — John 18:12–14

Before Caiaphas — Matthew 26:57–68

Before the Sanhedrin — Matthew 27:1–2

Criminal Trials

Before Pilate — John 18:28–38

Before Herod — Luke 23:6–12

Before Pilate — John 18:39–19:6

THE FIRST THREE TRIALS WERE RELIGIOUS

- 1) ANNAS: Jesus' first illegal trial
 - Held at night, no specific charges given - GUILTY!

- 2) CAIAPHAS: Illegal trial
 - Held at night; false witnesses
 - Convicted of blasphemy - GUILTY!

- 3) SANHEDRIN: Illegal trial; 71 ruling men of Israel
 - No witnesses; convicted of blasphemy - GUILTY!

THE SECOND THREE TRIALS WERE CIVIL

- 4) PILATE: Illegal; kept under arrest though found innocent, charged with treason – GUILTY!
- 5) HEROD: Illegal; no defense attorney, no charges, mistreated and sent back to Pilate - GUILTY!
- 6) PILATE: Illegal ; without proof, charged with treason, not proven - GUILTY!

Peter followed Jesus at a distance

Peter wanted to be faithful; he wanted to prove Jesus wrong; he would not stumble

Peter is going through the struggle of faith versus fear, and fear won out!

Verse 59 - 61

A Stacked Court

A sham trial, a stacked court (verse 59)

Not one false witness, out of a parade of witnesses, was credible – *no two agreed!*

Verse 62 - 65

Jesus: Calm under pressure
in a sham trial

Jesus kept silent - 700 years prior, Isaiah, the prophet, spoke about that moment



**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.**

Isaiah 53:7

The high priest, frazzled, angry and hysterical, plays his trump card:

“I put you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!”

Jesus responds to this legal request:

“It is as you said.”

He is indicating *I Am Messiah, the Son of God!*

Jesus gives two proofs that He is the Son of God:

- 1) He is sitting at the right hand of God**
- 2) I will return on the clouds of heaven**

Acts 1:9-11

Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

**LOOK, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS,
AND EVERY EYE WILL SEE HIM,
EVEN THOSE WHO PIERCED HIM;
AND ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH WILL
MOURN BECAUSE OF HIM.
SO SHALL IT BE! AMEN.**

REVELATION 1:7



The Rapture is not the Second Coming; we meet Jesus in the air

At the Second Coming, Jesus returns to earth to reign as **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!**

REVELATION 19:11-16 (NKJV)

¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war...¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. *And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.* He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: ***KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS***

“The high priest tore his clothes, saying, “He has spoken blasphemy!” (punishable by DEATH!)

Caiaphas could barely contain his giddiness and he pounces on the opportunity to **GET JESUS!**

Caiaphas sent Jesus to the Sanhedrin – *the final step in the religious trials*

Verse 66 - 68

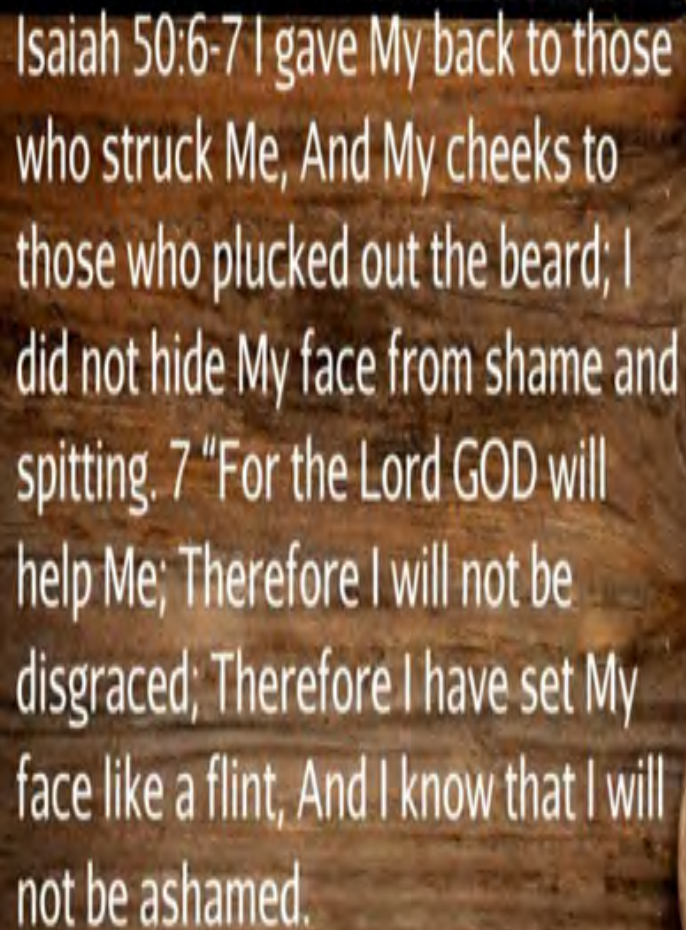
The Sanhedrin confirm: *GUILTY!*

Their hatred of Jesus could not be contained any longer

Jesus is God!

Jesus is their Creator!

Unfathomable what they would do to the ***Son of God!!***



Isaiah 50:6-7 I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. 7 "For the Lord GOD will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

Just As There Were Many
Who Were Appalled At Him
- His Appearance Was So
Disfigured Beyond That Of
Any Man And His Form
Marred Beyond Human

Likeness-

Isaiah 52-14

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Many in our world hate Jesus and His followers

Persecution is to be expected – *Jesus warned us!*
John 15: 18 & 20

So many get off the Jesus train at this point

The American Jesus is a “*give me what I want Jesus*”,
the soft cushy life, *it's all about ME!*

This is a **FALSE GOSPEL** – it is not about us, *but Him!*

The “*give me*” sells, it appeals to our will and our way;
folks that is the flesh!

Many today are being persecuted and dying for their faith

We must deal with the **REALITY** of persecution

How will you **RESPOND** when it comes to your house?

REALIZE there are rewards to persecution

A full dependance on God, a deep degree of fellowship with the Living God

The **PRESENCE** of God: ***I will trust in the Lord until I die attitude!***

Jesus is real, and every human must deal with Him

Jesus is alive; His resurrection is the hope of humanity

**What will you do with Jesus
who is called the Christ?**

*Is there room in your heart for Christ
to write His story?*