

I AM (Mark 14:53-65) Café Church - 16 -July-17

There are Bibles on the table in front of you

And a sermon outline

And some questions

Let me pray first...

Context

The context of the passage is that Jesus was betrayed by Judas

And we concluded last week - with 2 things

[Powerpoint 1-Last week]

Last Week

1. Even though Jesus was betrayed – it was all part of God's plan – **because Scripture must be fulfilled**
2. Even though Jesus was betrayed – **let's not forget the influence of Satan** – so let's be alert as the devil prowls around – and resist him and stand firm in the faith (1 Peter 5:8-9)

Jesus' Trials

So with Jesus arrested - He faces 2 trials

[Powerpoint 2-Trials]

An Ecclesiastical (Religious) trial - preliminary one with Annas (John 18:12-14, 19-24)

And a Civil (Political) trial - Mark 15:2-5, Luke 23:6-12 and Mark 15:6-15 - with Pilate and King Herod

Tonight - we're looking at Jesus' Ecclesiastical trial

So let's look at who's involved

The Participants

[Powerpoint 3-Participants]

1. High Priest - Caiaphas - v53 -

- a. He served for 18 years (AD 18-36)
- b. He ruled over the Sanhedrin = Jewish Council
- c. Trial is at Caiaphas' house - v54 (courtyard)
- d. He had predicted Jesus' death in John 11:49-52
- e. He was involved in the plot to kill Jesus from the start (John 11:53)

2. Chief Priests, Elders and Scribes - v53

- a. They'd also plotted to kill Jesus - Mark 14:1
- b. They'd also been sent to arrest Jesus - Mark 14:43

3. Members of the Jewish Council = Sanhedrin - v55

- a. The supreme ecclesiastical court of the Jews - like our Presbyterian Assembly NSW - and GAA
 - b. Would likely include - Nicodemus (John 3:1) and Joseph of Arimathea (Mark 15:43)
4. False witnesses - v55-56
5. Others -
- a. Peter in the courtyard - v54 -
 - b. perhaps the apostle John (John 18:15-16)
 - c. Guards - v65

The Charges

[Powerpoint 4-Charges]

1. **By false witnesses** - vv57-60
 - a. V57 -They testified falsely against Jesus but their statements didn't agree
 - b. V58-59 - They said Jesus would destroy the temple made with human hands and in three days build a new one, not with human hands - see John 2:19-22 - what He actually said - again testimony didn't agree
 - c. Jesus refused to defend himself - v60-61 (predicted in Isaiah 53:7)
2. **By High Priest** - v61-64 -
 - a. In response to question: "Are you the Messiah (Christ), the Son of the Blessed One?" - something Peter confirmed in Matt 16:16 and Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:25)

- b. Jesus replied - I AM - importance of the words I AM - see Exodus 3:11-15
- c. So here Jesus is claiming He will is God!
- d. He also says that He will sit at God's right hand - see Acts 7:55; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 8:1; Hebrews 10:12; Hebrews 12:2; 1 Peter 3:22; Rev 3:21; Matt 22:44 and Acts 2:33
- e. He also says that they will see Him coming on a cloud (Rev 1:7)
- f. Because of Jesus' answers - The High Priest tore his clothes - a sign of grief and sadness - that someone is in such grave sin
- g. High priest accuses Jesus of blasphemy = the act of insulting or showing lack of reverence/respect to God = because Jesus is claiming to be God - He is disrespecting God = the problem is what Jesus is saying is ACTUALLY true!

The Abuse

[Powerpoint 5-Abuse]

Because of the charge of blasphemy

Members of council/Sanhedrin - blindfolded him and beat him

They mocked him - Prophecy! Prophecy!

They guards beat Him - prophesied in Isaiah 50:6

Conclusions

[Powerpoint 6a]

1. It never occurred to the Sanhedrin that Jesus might be telling the truth - He is the great I AM. The same happens today - many reject Jesus - as being God and as being their Lord and Saviour - because they won't accept the truth

[Powerpoint 6b]

2. The trial of Jesus was unjust, cruel and unfair - this should encourage us that when we are unfairly treated as Christians - we're in good company - so was Jesus!

[Powerpoint 6c]

3. Also note - how Jesus responds to these false allegations and abuse - He says nothing - we can do the same. He only responds when the High Priests - asks Him who He was. We can learn from that too! Always be ready to say who Jesus really is - and forget about the insults. It's almost like Jesus is saying - "Why didn't you ask me that in the beginning instead of all these false charges!"

[Powerpoint 6d]

4. Be encouraged by the fact that - Jesus sits at God's right hand - and He intercedes for us - see Romans 8:34

[Powerpoint 6e]

5. Jesus is coming back - see Rev 22:12-13 - and Luke 12:40 - He delays because He doesn't want anyone to perish - 2 Peter 3:8-9 - Are we ready?

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Q & A

Let's Pray