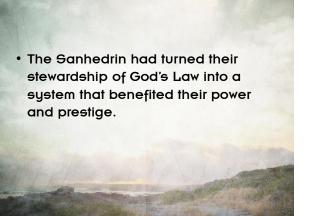


Jesus is tried and condemned according to the desire of the religious leaders.

The essence of the Gospel is not fairness, but grace. The trials of Jesus remind us of God's great love for us. The perfect one has suffered greatly for sinful man.





I. The Gathering

- The "high priest" in view here was Caiaphas.
- This was an unscheduled meeting of the Sanhedrin, since Jewish law required that official meetings take place during the daytime.

II. False Testimony

- "It is harder to agree on a consistent lie than to tell the simple truth."
- Evidently the witnesses misunderstood
 Jesus' statements about the
 destruction of the temple of His body
 (John 2:19) and the future destruction
 of the Jerusalem temple (13:2).

III. Are You...?

- Jesus did not need to respond to the high priest's first question. No one had offered any real proof against Him.
- Caiaphas was not asking if Jesus claimed to be God, but only a human "Messiah

III. Are You...?

 A Messiah imprisoned, abandoned by his followers, and delivered helpless into the hands of his foes represented an impossible conception.

III. Are You...?

- "I am" in vs. 62 is Jesus' first open proclamation of His deity in Mark's Gospel.
- Jesus added that He was not only a human Messiah, but the divine "Son of Man."

III. Are You...?

- Jesus was claiming to be the Judge of those who sat to judge Him.
- Having judged Jesus as being guilty, some of the Sanhedrin members vented their anger by attacking Him bodily and insult Him.

"For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;" – 1 Peter 2:21-23

Jesus endured cruel punishment to secure our freedom.

That is grace!