

44--The Jewish Trial

Matthew 26:57-27:10; Mark 14:53-15:1; Luke 22:54-23:1; John 18:12-27

1. After Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested by night, who do the officers take Him to first (John 18:12-14)? What were the roles of these men?

2. What question is Jesus asked and how does He respond to it in John 18:19-23? What happens as a result of His answer? What does this early treatment of the defendant indicate about those interrogating Him? What other unethical actions occur within this text?

3. After visiting the house of Annas, Jesus is then taken to the house of Caiaphas. What does the "council" seek to try and convict Jesus and what problem were they having with the witnesses (Matthew 26:57-60; Mark 14:53-56; Luke 22:54)?

4. Finally, the witnesses find an accusation they use to convict Jesus. How was it a misrepresentation of what He taught (Matthew 26:60-62; Mark 14:57-59)? What accusation does the High Priest make concerning Jesus which leads to a Jewish conviction (Matthew 26:63-66; Mark 14:60-64)?

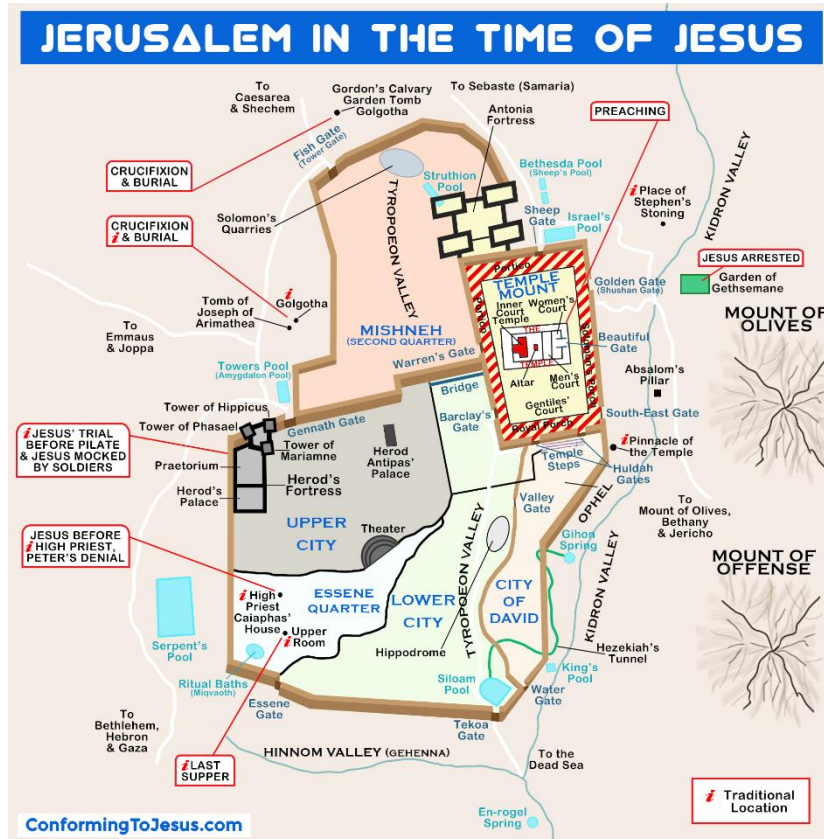
5. Can you think of any reasons why a case like this one might be thrown out in a fair and just trial?

6. While Jesus is on trial, where is Peter (John 18:15-19)?

7. What does Peter do when He is viewed with suspicion by those of the arresting party (read Matthew 26:58, 69-75; Mark 14:54, 66-72; Luke 22:54-62; John 18:25-27)? While we are quick to criticize Peter's denial, what might be complimented about Peter in this instance?

8. Read Matthew 27:1-2; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66-27:1. Why did the Jews believe Jesus was worthy of being convicted? What was His crime?

9. After He leaves the Jews, where is He taken? Why does Jesus need to be taken there?



10. What various sins are the Jews guilty of in their treatment of Jesus? Yet, hypocritically, what are they concerned about as they lead Jesus to the Romans (John 18:28)?