

LESSON #83 – JESUS BEFORE THE SPIRITUAL COURT

Matt. 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-65; Luke 22:54-55; John 18:12-24

The suffering of Jesus for our sins had truly begun. He was led away by the soldiers and the leaders of the Jews and was taken to Caiaphas, the high priest. This man should have been able to see that Jesus was the promised Savior but he was blinded by his own sin and pride as the rest were. Peter and another disciple followed at a distance, afraid of getting too close. The chief priests and teachers of the Jews knew that Jesus had not done anything wrong. They knew that He was a good man and had done many miracles. But see how bad sin is?! It makes people foolish. It makes people want to do bad things. That is why Jesus had to come to save us from our sinful nature, to make our spirits come alive again. And that is why we must be so thankful to God if we do believe in Jesus and admit that we are sinners and need His help. We may look at those around us and we may think of these men who judged Jesus and wanted to kill Him and we may hate them and think that we are better than they are, but we must always remember that if Jesus had not died for us and given us His Spirit, we would be doing the same things that they did and do.

So the chief priests and the Pharisees were trying to find a way to find something wrong with Jesus and what He had done. So they brought some men to tell lies about Jesus. But they all said something different. They could not find anything that Jesus had done which was bad. Finally, two men came forward and said that Jesus had said that He could destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days. They had different stories too but the Jews were looking for anything that could be used against Jesus so they could put Him to death.

Remember that this was all happening in the middle of the night. The high priest kept questioning Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. Jesus told him that He had always taught in the open, at the synagogues or at the temple, where all of the Jews could hear. He did not say anything in secret. So Jesus told the high priest to ask those who heard Him to see what He taught. This answer made one of the officials angry and he struck Jesus in the face. Jesus said, "If I said something wrong, testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth why did you strike Me?"

Finally, after all of the questions, the high priest stood up and asked Jesus, "Are you not going to answer?" But Jesus gave no answer. Then the high priest said to Jesus, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!" Then Jesus replied, "Yes, it is as you say. But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

When the high priest and the rest of the Jews heard that they did not need to hear anything else. They did not believe that Jesus was the Son of God or the promised Savior because of the sin in their hearts. They believed that it was a great sin to claim to be God. They all agreed that Jesus should die. Then they spit in His face and hit Him with their fists, and beat Him.

This was all happening to the Son of God who would have called upon the angels to help Him. But He did not. He was humiliated for you and for me. He suffered like this for you and for me. These men could find nothing that He had done wrong. He was perfect in every way. When you think of the suffering of Jesus, think how much He did for you. Remember that this was all being done so that YOU might be forgiven by God for your sins and have eternal life through Jesus.

Memory Verse: "You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." – Mark 14:62.

Application: Sinful men can never understand God's love and message of salvation. Only those who have been given God's Spirit will believe.

LESSON #83 – JESUS BEFORE THE SPIRITUAL COURT

Matthew 26:57-68; Mark 14:53-65; Luke 22:54-55; John 18:12-24

It was dark now. The city of Jerusalem lay sleeping, unaware that the Savior of the world was being treated as a criminal, being mocked and beaten. They did not know that this was the most important night in the history of the world! The soldiers and the leaders of the Jews took Jesus to the high priest. These men had read the Old Testament prophets. They knew that the Savior would do wonderful things when He came, just as Jesus had done. They should have seen that He was the Savior. He had been born in Bethlehem as Micah predicted. He had been raised in Nazareth, had healed people, and had done all sorts of miracles as Isaiah had predicted. He had even ridden into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey as Zechariah had predicted. How could they not understand? Sin! Sin makes men blind to the truth. Every person today should be able to look around them at the sun, the moon, the stars, birds, flowers, mountains, and the oceans, at all of the beautiful things that God has made, and know that God is real. But they do not. They are slaves to sin. They are blind. And that is why Jesus came, to open the hearts of those whom God had chosen to be His people; to take away their sin.

The chief priests and the Pharisees wanted to find some way to kill Jesus. First they brought some men to tell lies about Jesus to try to show that He had done something bad, but they all told a different story and none of them were true. As hard as they tried, they could not find anything bad that Jesus had done. At last two men came who said they had heard Jesus say that He could destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days. The Jews loved the temple more than they loved God. It made them feel important and better than anyone else. This was surely a reason to kill Jesus. They did not understand that Jesus was not speaking about the temple which they had built. The temple is the place where God is. Jesus Himself was the true temple because He was God! He was talking about His death and resurrection when He said that the temple would be destroyed, and in three days He would raise it up again.

The Jews did not care if they knew the truth or not. They wanted to get rid of Jesus. So the high priest kept asking Jesus questions about His disciples and what He had taught. Jesus reminded the high priest that He had spoken in front of many people. The high priest should ask them what Jesus taught, if there was anything wrong in what He had said. One of the men who were standing by Jesus got angry when Jesus said this, and he struck Jesus in the face. These men cared more about their feelings than they did about the truth!

Jesus would not answer many of their questions because He knew that they did not want to hear the truth. Finally the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God!" Then Jesus answered truthfully, "Yes if it is as you say. But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Now the high priest and the rest of the Jews were really angry! How dare this man say that He was the Son of God?! Of course, it was a great sin, worthy of death, to claim to be God. But Jesus was and is God! Because of their sinful hearts they did not believe Him. They spit in His face and hit Him with their fists, beating Him. They all agreed that He must die.

This was the beginning of a very long night for Jesus. The Jews could find nothing that Jesus had ever done that was wrong. Why didn't they know He was the promised Savior? Because of the sin in their hearts and because they did not listen to the Word of God. People are the same today. You must hear what God tells us in His Word about Jesus and you must believe! All of this suffering was for you!

Jesus Before the Spiritual Council (Continued)

Name: _____ Date: _____

MEMORY VERSE

“When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not strike back; when He suffered, He made no threats.” - 1 Peter 2:23

APPLICATION

Oh, how awful is the blindness of sin! Men do not want to know the truth. They already decide without knowing the truth that Jesus must die. Men today are the same way. People do not believe that God is in control over all things. It is true. The comfort which Jesus had was that He was doing the will of God. Let that be your comfort when others call you names or try to hurt you for doing what is good. Jesus is with you. He suffered all this for you. Be ready to suffer for Him, and for the truth of His Word.

QUESTIONS

Fill in the blanks with the words at the bottom.

1. The soldiers and the leaders of the Jews took Jesus to the _____ to be tried in his court of Jewish law.
2. If the Jews had really believed the prophets of the Old Testament, they would have known that Jesus was the _____.
3. Sinful man cannot understand or see the truth because his sin has made him foolish and _____ to everything good.
4. The Jews did not really care about finding the truth about Jesus. They only wanted to _____ Him to stop the people from following Him.
5. When Jesus had spoken about destroying the _____ and rebuilding it again in three days, he had been speaking about Himself, and His death and resurrection.
6. When the high priest wanted to hear what Jesus had taught, Jesus told him to ask the _____ who had heard Him teach.
7. The high priest finally asked Jesus the most important question of all, and Jesus confessed that He was, indeed, the _____.
8. As Jesus told them that they would see Him at the right hand of God someday, they become very _____ and began to spit at Him and beat Him.
9. The Jews could not find anything that Jesus had done or said that was _____ or against the law.
10. The Jews showed their sin and guilt just as people do today, by not listening to or believing what is written in the _____.

people
blind
savior
Word of God

high priest
angry
Son of God

wrong
temple
kill

Class 5 Memorization	<i>HC Q+A:</i>		<i>Scripture:</i>	
-----------------------------	----------------	--	-------------------	--

LESSON #83 – EATING THE PASSOVER AND THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Read Matt. 26:17-35; Mark 14:12-31; Luke 22:7-38; John13:1-38

Today’s lesson reveals to us a very, very important event: the Lord’s Supper. God had revealed His Covenant of Grace to Abraham and when the descendants of Abraham became the nation of Israel God released them from their slavery in the land of Egypt and brought them into the Promised Land of Canaan. To celebrate that release from slavery God commanded them to eat the Passover. On the night of the first Passover those who believed were to take the “blood of a perfect lamb” and put it on their doorpost. Then the angel of death would pass over that house and the firstborn would not die. Now, the true “Lamb of God,” Jesus, was about to give His blood to protect His people from the angel of death. Though all men deserve to remain in their spiritually dead condition, Jesus came to call some to life by giving His blood in their place. This is the meaning of the Lord’s Supper. By His blood and power we are released from our slavery to sin and made servants of God. We, too, have a Promised Land waiting for us: eternal life in the presence of God!

QUESTIONS

1. Whom did Jesus send to make preparations for the Passover? _____
2. What instructions did Jesus give them? _____
3. What startling news did Jesus give them as they ate the meal? _____
4. How did Jesus show who it would be? _____
5. What argument arose among the disciples? _____
6. Whom did Jesus say was the greatest? _____
7. How did Jesus show them that they must be willing to serve others, even if they were below them in social status? _____

8. What boast did Peter make after Jesus had predicted that they would all fall away? _____
9. How did Jesus reply? _____
10. What assurance did Jesus give Peter? (Luke 22:32) _____
11. What other promises does Jesus make to the disciples? (Luke 22:29-30) _____
12. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-29. Do we receive any benefit from partaking of the Lord’s Supper? ____ If so, what is it? _____
13. After all people to celebrate the Lord’s Supper? _____
Why or why not? _____

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

Should the celebration of the Lord’s Supper be a joyous occasion for believers? How long will the Lord’s Supper be celebrated by those who believe?