



MESSAGE NOTES March 21, 2010

Week 3 THE INJUSTICE: Caiaphas' Conspiracy

The trial of Jesus Christ was the world's greatest miscarriage of justice. Not only do we have an innocent man, but a perfect person falsely accused!

The leading character in this despicable act of wrongdoing was a man by the name of Caiaphas. This morning as we continue our investigation, I want us to follow this suspect. We will look at how he manipulated and misused people in order to convict Jesus. But we also want to watch our victim, Jesus, and the way he reacted to this injustice. Because the fact is, we too will suffer from unfair accusations and mistreatment from others. How we deal with those circumstances will say a lot about our character.

I. THE TREATMENT OF CAIAPHAS:

- A. Who Caiaphas was: The "Official" High Priest appointed by Rome in 15 A.D.
- B. What Caiaphas did:
 - 1. He tried Jesus _____.
 - a. #1 - At night
 - b. #2 - Used false witnesses
 - c. #3 - Jury (Sanhedrin) decided guilt before trial.
 - d. #4 - Judge (Caiaphas) became the prosecutor.
 - e. #5 - Improper determination of Jesus' "blasphemy"
 - 2. They treated Jesus in _____

II. THE COMPOSURE OF JESUS:

- A. Jesus _____ Pilate. Matthew 27:12-14
- B. Jesus _____ the temptation to strike back - 1 Peter 2:23

III. THREE LESSONS FOR US TO APPLY TO OUR LIVES:

- A. Take time to _____ the circumstances objectively & spiritually.
 - > Make sure your suffering, not imagining! 1 Peter 4:15
- B. Don't be surprised by the _____ of people.
 - > Make sure your attitude is as right as your principles! Gal. 5:15
- C. Trust God even when you don't _____.
 - > Realize God knows the BIG picture - 1 Peter 2:24-25

SCRIPTURE TEXT
Matthew 26:57, 59-68

⁵⁷Then the people who had arrested Jesus led him to the home of Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of religious law and other leaders had gathered...

⁵⁹Inside, the leading priests and the entire high council were trying to find witnesses who would lie about Jesus, so they could put him to death. ⁶⁰But even though they found many who agreed to give false witness, there was no testimony they could use. Finally, two men were found ⁶¹who declared, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the Temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶²Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Well, aren't you going to answer these charges? What do you have to say for yourself?" ⁶³But Jesus remained silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I demand in the name of the living God that you tell us whether you are the Messiah, the Son of God." ⁶⁴Jesus replied, "Yes, it is as you say. And in the future you will see me, the Son of Man, sitting at God's right hand in the place of power and coming back on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his clothing to show his horror, shouting, "Blasphemy! Why do we need other witnesses? You have all heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶What is your verdict?" "Guilty!" they shouted. "He must die!" ⁶⁷Then they spit in Jesus' face and hit him with their fists. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who hit you that time?"

*Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation.
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ADDITONAL NOTES