

John 18:19-40 – Jesus Tried

Read John 18:19-24.

In verse 19, what two things did the high priest question Jesus about?

Did Jesus give an answer about his disciples? How did Jesus respond to the question about his teaching? (18:20-21)

Why do you think the official struck Jesus? How did Jesus respond? How would you respond? After Jesus' response, Annas sent Jesus to Caiaphas, the current high priest. (18:22-24)

Read John 18:25-27.

These verses pick up the story of Peter in the courtyard of the high priest. He was standing and warming himself by the fire. Peter had already denied Jesus once when a servant girl asked him if he was one of Jesus' disciples. In verse 25, who asked Peter if he was one of Jesus' disciples? How did Peter respond to this second questioning? (18:25)

In verse 26, who spoke to Peter and what did he ask him? How did Peter respond? What happened after Peter denied Jesus three times? What do the other Gospels say Peter did after his third denial? (18:26-27)

Read John 18:28-40.

Jesus was led from Caiaphas' place to Pilate. Why didn't the Jewish leaders go into Pilate's place? It reminds me of what Jesus said to the Pharisees in Mt 23:24. They "strain out a gnat and swallow a camel". Are we guilty of doing similar things? (18:28)

In verse 29, Pilate went out to the Jewish leaders and asked them what the charge was against Jesus. How did they answer Pilate? What does their answer reveal about them? (18:29-30)

I think Pilate could see that they were up to no good and made the first attempt to have nothing to do with their plans. Pilate told the Jewish leaders to try Jesus themselves according to their law. Why couldn't the Jews do that? (18:31)

How would the Jews have put Jesus to death, if they could have? How did Jesus' execution by the Romans fulfill Jesus' predictions from 3:14 and 12:32-33? (18:32)

Who was controlling the conversation between Jesus and Pilate? What was Pilate trying to accomplish? What was Jesus accomplishing? (18:33-38)

What did Jesus say about his kingdom? (18:36)

In verse 37, why did Jesus say he came into the world and was born? What is true of those who are "of the truth"? How did Pilate respond to Jesus? What did Pilate's response reveal about him? (18:37-38)

After examining Jesus, what was Pilate's conclusion that he proclaimed to the Jewish leaders? Do you think Pilate knew the he was being used by the Jewish leaders? (18:38)

The custom at the Passover was for Pilate to release a prisoner to the Jews. That year, their choice was between Barabbas and Jesus. What does Barabbas' name mean? Who was Barabbas? (18:39-40)