

ANSWER SHEET

A Study of the Gospel according to Luke Fall Session#10 Trials and Crucifixion Read Luke 23:1 - 56

1. What are the three political charges levelled against Jesus in his trial before Pilate?

- He is charged with perverting the nation, that is, treason, of being a revolutionary and committing sedition against Rome
- He was charged with disobeying the laws of the nation, in particular for not paying taxes.
- He was charged with claiming to be King, with being a rival to Caesar.

2. Jesus' trial was actually a series of hearings carefully controlled to accomplish the death of Jesus. Jesus had to go through six trials. Identify where they are found in scripture.

Trial before Annas (powerful ex-high priest) John 18:13-23

Trial before Caiaphas (the ruling High Priest) Matthew 26:57-68, Mark 14:53-65,

Luke 22:54, 63-65, John 18:24

Trial before the Sanhedrin Council Matthew 27:1, Mark 15:1,
Luke 22:66-71

Trial before Pilate (highest Roman authority) Matthew 27:2, 11-14, Mark 15:1-5,

Luke 23:1-6, John 18:28-38

Trial before Herod (ruler of Galilee) Luke 23:7-12

Trial before Pilate Matthew 27:15-26, Mark 15:6-15,
Luke 23:13-25, John 18:39-19:16

3. Pilate wanted to declare Jesus innocent, but felt he had to satisfy the cries of the Jewish leaders. He conceived a compromise. What was the compromise and why didn't it work?

It was a long time custom for Rome to release a popular prisoner to the Jews at the Passover Feast in order to humor and secure more cooperation from the population.

The compromise was to bring Barabbas, a notorious criminal before the people along with Jesus so they could choose which one to release. He felt sure they would choose Jesus, the One who had ministered and helped so many of them. He was wrong.

The compromise did not work because the Jews wanted to kill Jesus because they envied Him and His relationship with the people, so they choose Barabbas.

Pilate attempted a compromise instead of standing up for the truth. He knew Jesus was innocent and should have been released.

4. What is the meaning of verse 23:31?

Verse 31 is a proverbial saying: if the world (Rome) treats a green tree like this (Him, a tree with its full provision of sap), how will it treat a dry tree like Israel, a tree with little if any provision of sap, a tree of no use, with no life left, ready to be cut down and destroyed?

5. Why was Jesus crucified with criminals?

Scripture really does not say. Perhaps the Jewish leaders pressed Pilate to execute Jesus with other criminals so they could add weight to their position that He was no more than just a man, an imposter who deserved to die just as other criminals.

6. What is represented to us as Christians in seeing the two criminals on each side of Jesus and their responses to the situation?

Unbelief. There was the unrepentant thief a picture of hardness even in death. He mocked the very thought that Jesus was the Christ.

Salvation. There was the repentant thief, a picture of true repentance. He demonstrates the steps to salvation.

- He feared God (v.40)
- He declared that Jesus was righteous (v.41)
- He asked for Jesus to remember him (v. 42)

7. Verse 45 reads, “Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two.” (NKJV) What is the significance of this verse?

The veil was the curtain that separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. The Holy of Holies was the most sacred part of the temple. It was the place where the very presence of God was symbolized as dwelling in a very, very special way. It was closed forever to everyone except the High Priest, who could only enter once a year on the Day of Atonement.

The veil was torn from top to bottom. This symbolized that it was torn by an act of God Himself.

Tearing of the veil meant that everyone could now draw near God by the blood of Jesus Christ.

8. Joseph of Arimathea was a secret disciple of Jesus Christ. What indicates that he changed to being a bold disciple for Christ?

He actually went to Pilate and begged for the body of Jesus. This was a tremendous act of courage.

He risked the disfavor and discipline of the Sanhedrin Council.