The Secular Trial of Jesus

John 18:28—19:3

Introduction:

I. The Accusation – 18:28-32

A. The Scruples of the Priests – 18:28

1. Their Spiritual Bondage – 18:28a

“Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. ﻿

But they themselves did not go into the ﻿﻿Praetorium, lest they should be defiled,”

2. Their Spiritual Blindness – 18:28b

“but that they might eat the Passover.”

B. The Sarcasm of the Priests – 18:29-30

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﻿﻿“Pilate then went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this Man?” They answered and said to him, “If He were not ﻿﻿an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you.”

C. The Scheme of the Priests – 18:31-32

“Then Pilate said to them, “You take Him and judge Him according to your law.”

Therefore the Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,” that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, ﻿﻿signifying by what death He would die.”

II. The Examination – 18:33-40

A. The Salient Question – 18:33-34

﻿﻿“Then Pilate entered the ﻿﻿Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, “Are You the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered him, “Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?”

B. The Scornful Question – 18:35a

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“Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me.”

C. The Serious Question – 18:35b-36

“What have You done?” ﻿

Jesus answered, ﻿﻿“My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

D. The Sobering Question – 18:37

“Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?” Jesus answered, “You say *rightly* that I am a king.

For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, ﻿﻿that I should bear ﻿﻿witness to the truth. Everyone who ﻿﻿is of the truth ﻿﻿hears My voice.”

E. The Speculative Question – 18:38a

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“Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

F. The Scandalous Question – 18:38b – 40

“And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, ﻿﻿“I find no fault in Him at all.

“But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”

Then they all cried again, saying, “Not this Man, but Barabbas!” ﻿﻿Now Barabbas was a robber.”

III. The Persecution – 19:1-3

A. The Scourging – 19:1

“So then ﻿﻿Pilate took Jesus and scourged *Him.”*

B. The Scoffing – 19:2-3

1. How Jesus was Attired – 19:2

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“And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put *it* on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe.”

2. How Jesus was Attacked – 19:3

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“Then they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they ﻿﻿struck Him with their hands.”