**The Cup of God’s Wrath! (Part 2)**

**Mark 14:53-65**

**Philippians 2:5-8** describes the humiliation Jesus endured for our sake.

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.

The pinnacle of Jesus’ humiliation came in three stages during the last few hours of his life:

Stage 1: The **agony of Gethsemane** leading to his betrayal!

Stage 2: The **shame of the trials** bringing false accusations!

Stage 3: The **suffering of the cross** resulting in his death!

The number, time, and nature of the trials Jesus endured that night after being led away from Gethsemane.

* There were six trials. Three were religious and three were civil.
* The religious trials were conducted by the High Priests and the religious leaders while the civil trials were conducted by Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea, and King Herod.
* Jesus was found guilty at all three religious trials and innocent at all three civil trials.

THE TIME FRAME:

1. **Jesus’ arrest** was around **1:00 a.m**.
2. **Before Annas:**

* Then He was led to Annas, father-in-law of Caiaphas (the current High Priest).
* When Annas declared him **guilty** it was **about 2:30** a.m.

1. **Before Caiaphas:**

* When Jesus stood before Annas he was silent. Now, as he stood before Caiaphas and listened to all the false charges, He remained silent to everyone’s amazement.

“He was oppressed and afflicted yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth” (**Isaiah 53:7**).

* By the time these religious leaders come to their **guilty verdict**, Jesus has been standing before them from **2:30 to 5:00** in the morning.

1. **Before the Sanhedrin** (ruling council consisting of 71 men, including the High Priest):

**Luke 22:66** says, “At **daybreak** the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them.

* Once again, they required Jesus to claim that He was the Christ. And Once again Jesus said, “I AM!” And for the third time, He was declared **GUILTY**!
* THE TIME IS NOW **6:00 a.m.!**

1. **Before Pilate:**

* Pilate could find nothing wrong with this man, and when he heard that Herod was in Jerusalem, he decided to send Jesus to him. INNOCENT!
* The time is now 6:30 a.m.

1. **Before Herod:**

* Herod plied him with many questions. But still, He gave no answer. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate after finding him **innocent.**
* THE TIME IS NOW **7:00 a.m**.!

1. **Before Pilate again:**

* Once again, Pilate found him **innocent!**
* THE TIME IS NOW **8:00 a.m.!**

**What does it mean to put God on trial?**

1. We put God on trial when we **question His word**.
2. We also put God on trial when we **twist His word**.
3. We put God on trial when we **question is authority**.

Jesus said: “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

To what event was Jesus pointing? **THE SECOND COMING** when He will return to this very earth to judge the world.

**Revelation 20:15 “**If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

**Ezekiel 33:11** “AS surely as I live declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live.”

**2 Peter 3:9** “[God] is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

**2 Corinthians 6:2** “I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, **now is the day of salvation**!”