

## THE PASSION

- most of us would agree that the world is a mess today
- evil abounds, and it seems that people have lost all sense of honesty and integrity
- how did we get in this mess? (tell story of sin from the beginning)
- is there any hope, or are we doomed to despair and hopelessness? (hopefully today we will find the only good answer)

### (14:53-65) FALSELY ACCUSED BEFORE THE JEWISH HIGH COURT

- an illegal gathering of the Sanhedrin in the middle of the night
  - false witnesses that were bought and paid for
  - Jesus sets a great example when falsely accused = He kept silent
  - because their mind was already made up about the guilt of Jesus, they quickly arrived at the conclusion = Jesus must die
  - the abuse and mockery then began
- ### (14:66-72) PETER DENIES JESUS

- just as Jesus had predicted earlier, Peter denies that he ever knew Jesus
- a couple of questions to consider—
  - What causes us to be embarrassed or afraid when someone asks us about Jesus?
  - What are some of the ways that we deny Jesus today?

- It is the response of Peter that should encourage us
- ### (15:1-5) QUESTIONED BY PILATE

- even here, Jesus kept silent

### (15:6-15) TAKING THE PLACE OF BARABAS

- Pilate had a tough time keeping order in Jerusalem so he tried to accommodate the Jewish leaders as much as he could

- this is why he has a custom of releasing a prisoner during the Passover celebration

- Pilate really knew that Jesus was innocent, and the Jews delivered Him because of envy

- Notice all the references throughout this ordeal about the innocence of Jesus

- the crowd, stirred up by a few leaders, demanded the release of Barabbas and the crucifixion of Jesus

- don't miss the underlying theme here of Jesus being the substitute for Barabbas

### (15:16-20) MOCKED BY THE SOLDIERS

- this is just a glimpse of the tremendous physical abuse Jesus suffered before His crucifixion

- (read [Isaiah 52:13-53:12](#))

### (15:21-32) CRUCIFIED

### (15:33-47) DEAD AND BURIED