

A HARMONY READING OF THE TRIAL OF JESUS

JOHN 18

¹²So the Roman cohort and the commander and the officers of the Jews, arrested Jesus and bound Him,
¹³and led Him to Annas first; for he was father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year.
¹⁴Now Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was expedient for one man to die on behalf of the people.
¹⁵Simon Peter was following Jesus, and so was another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest,
¹⁶but Peter was standing at the door outside. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the doorkeeper, and brought Peter in.

MATTHEW 26

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl ^{John 18:17}*who kept the door* came to him and said, *"You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you? You too were with Jesus the Galilean."*
⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying, *"I am not; I do not know what you are talking about."*

JOHN 18

¹⁸Now the slaves and the officers were standing there, having made a charcoal fire, for it was cold and they were warming themselves; and Peter was also with them, standing and warming himself.
¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples, and about His teaching.
²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret.
²¹"Why do you question Me? Question those who have heard what I spoke to them; they know what I said."
²²When He had said this, one of the officers standing nearby struck Jesus, saying, "Is that the way You answer the high priest?"
²³Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify of the wrong; but if rightly, why do you strike Me?"
²⁴So Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

MARK 14 (very similar to Matthew 26:57-66)

⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, and they were not finding any.
⁵⁶For many were giving false testimony against Him, but their testimony was not consistent.
⁵⁷Some stood up and began to give false testimony against Him, saying,
⁵⁸"We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.'"
⁵⁹Not even in this respect was their testimony consistent.
⁶⁰The high priest stood up and came forward and questioned Jesus, saying, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?"
⁶¹But He kept silent and did not answer. Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, ^{Matt 26:63}*"I adjure You by the living God, that you tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God; the Son of the Blessed One?"*
⁶²And Jesus said, "I am; ^{Matt 26:64}*You have said it yourself; nevertheless* and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN."
⁶³Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses?
⁶⁴"You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.

MATTHEW 26

⁷¹When [Peter] had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

⁷²And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."

⁷³A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Surely you too are one of them; for even the way you talk gives you away."

JOHN 18

²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, being a relative of the one whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" *Matthew 22:74* ⁷⁴Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know the man!" And immediately a rooster crowed.

LUKE 22

⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times."

⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly.

⁶³Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking Him and beating Him,

⁶⁴and they blindfolded Him and were asking Him, saying, "Prophecy, who is the one who hit You?"

⁶⁵And they were saying many other things against Him, blaspheming.

⁶⁶When it was day, the Council of elders of the people assembled, both chief priests and scribes, and they led Him away to their council chamber, saying,

⁶⁷"If You are the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe;

⁶⁸and if I ask a question, you will not answer.

⁶⁹"But from now on THE SON OF MAN WILL BE SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND of the power OF GOD."

⁷⁰And they all said, "Are You the Son of God, then?" And He said to them, "Yes, I am."

⁷¹Then they said, "What further need do we have of testimony? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

MATTHEW 27

³Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

⁴saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!"

⁵And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.

⁶The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood."

⁷And they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers.

⁸For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

⁹Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "AND THEY TOOK THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, THE PRICE OF THE ONE WHOSE PRICE HAD BEEN SET by the sons of Israel;

¹⁰AND THEY GAVE THEM FOR THE POTTER'S FIELD, AS THE LORD DIRECTED ME."

JOHN 18

²⁸Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas into the Praetorium, and it was early; and they themselves did not enter into the Praetorium so that they would not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

²⁹Therefore Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"

³⁰They answered and said to him, "If this Man were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him to you."

³¹So Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death,"

³²to fulfill the word of Jesus which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die.

LUKE 23

²And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a King."

MATTHEW 26 *(very similar to Mark 15:3-5)*

¹²And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not answer.

¹³Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?"

¹⁴And He did not answer him with regard to even a single charge, so the governor was quite amazed.

JOHN 18

³³Therefore Pilate entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?"

³⁵Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You to me; what have You done?"

³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

³⁷Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, ^{Luke 24:3}*"It is as you say; You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."*

³⁸A Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

LUKE 23

⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man."

⁵But they kept on insisting, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching all over Judea, starting from Galilee even as far as this place."

⁶When Pilate heard it, he asked whether the man was a Galilean.

⁷And when he learned that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who himself also was in Jerusalem at that time.

⁸Now Herod was very glad when he saw Jesus; for he had wanted to see Him for a long time, because he had been hearing about Him and was hoping to see some sign performed by Him.

⁹And he questioned Him at some length; but He answered him nothing.

¹⁰And the chief priests and the scribes were standing there, accusing Him vehemently.

¹¹And Herod with his soldiers, after treating Him with contempt and mocking Him, dressed Him in a gorgeous robe and sent Him back to Pilate.

¹²Now Herod and Pilate became friends with one another that very day; for before they had been enemies with each other.

¹³Pilate summoned the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

¹⁴and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who incites the people to rebellion, and behold, having examined Him before you, I have found no guilt in this man regarding the charges which you make against Him.

¹⁵"No, nor has Herod, for he sent Him back to us; and behold, nothing deserving death has been done by Him.

¹⁶"Therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

MARK 15 *(very similar to Matthew 27:15-16; Luke 23:17; John 19:39)*

⁶Now at the feast he used to release for them any one prisoner whom they requested. ^{Matthew 27:16} *"At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas."*

⁷The man named Barabbas had been imprisoned with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the insurrection.

⁸The crowd went up and began asking him to do as he had been accustomed to do for them.

⁹Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

¹⁰For he was aware that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.

MATTHEW 27 *(very similar to Mark 15:11-15)*

¹⁹While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."

²⁰But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death.

²¹But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ; *Mark 15:12* **the King of the Jews?**" They all said, "Crucify Him!"

²³And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!"

JOHN 19

¹Pilate then took Jesus and scourged Him.

²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe on Him;

³and they began to come up to Him and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to give Him slaps in the face.

⁴Pilate came out again and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."

⁵Jesus then came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!"

⁶So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him."

⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God."

⁸Therefore when Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid;

⁹and he entered into the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

¹⁰So Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?"

¹¹Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

¹²As a result of this Pilate made efforts to release Him, but the Jews cried out saying, "If you release this Man, you are no friend of Caesar; everyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes Caesar."

¹³Therefore when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

¹⁴Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"

¹⁵So they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

MATTHEW 27

²⁴When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves."

²⁵And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!"

²⁶Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.