



Jesus on Trial

Introductions

Let's get started by sharing our names and answering this question: *[Provide introductions as necessary and choose your own question].*

Songs of Praise

Let's begin our time singing to the Lord. *[Sing additional songs if you prefer. Contact the church office for copies of our church songbooks.]*

Christ the True and Better

Christ the true and better Adam
 Son of God and Son of man
 Who, when tempted in the garden
 Never yielded, never sinned
 He who makes the many righteous
 Brings us back to life again
 Dying, He reversed the curse
 Then rising, crushed the serpent's head

Christ the true and better Isaac
 Humble Son of sacrifice
 Who would climb the fearful mountain
 There to offer up His life
 Laid with faith upon the altar
 Father's joy and only Son
 There salvation was provided
 Oh, what full and boundless love

Amen, amen

From beginning to end
 Christ the story, His the glory
 Alleluia, amen

Christ the true and better Moses
 Called to lead a people home
 Standing bold to earthly powers
 God's great glory to be known
 With his arms stretched wide to heaven
 See the waters part in two
 See the veil is torn forever
 Cleansed with blood we pass now through

Christ the true and better David
 Lowly shepherd, mighty King
 He, the champion in the battle
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 In our place He bled and conquered
 Crown Him Lord of majesty
 His shall be the throne forever
 We shall e'er His people be

Keith & Kristyn Getty,
 Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, 2021

Church News

- There will be no Home Group Study Guide for the following Easter week. I encourage all groups to not meet and make it a priority of attending the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

Study

[This guide utilizes the Sunday sermon notes, please [click this link](#) to access them.]

Q: Would someone open us in prayer?

Q: Would someone read aloud Matthew 26:57-68?

It is helpful to first discuss the events leading up to this section, so let's take a moment and look back.

Q: What were the events leading up to Jesus' arrest?¹

Q: Did the council have the authority to execute Jesus? Why or why not? If not, who had that authority, and what then was the purpose of this council?

Q: According to Levitical law, how many corroborating witnesses did the council need to uphold a charge? (Deut 17:6)

Q: What was wrong with the testimonies of the two witnesses who do agree? (Matt 26:60b-61)

Let's read aloud Deuteronomy 19:18-19.

Q: What *should have* happened to any false witnesses who came to the council that night?

Q: Was there ever a time you did not give someone a fair hearing (a friend, a coworker, a family member)? Explain. What does this say about our commitments to equity and justice?

Q: Caiaphas is crafty in order to force Jesus into answering? How does he do it?

Q: When Jesus affirms that he is the Messiah, what does the council do? Why is their response so debased?

Q: When you consider the responses of Jesus, the council, Peter, or the guards, who do you most resemble?

Q: Why is it important to remember that, as unjust as this trial was against Christ, he suffered *for those who believe in him*?

Q: Before we finish up and pray, are there any other questions or comments?

Prayer

Let's finish by praying for one another.

Notes...

¹ See Matthew 26:3-5, 47-56.