



Good Friday

John 18:2-3, Mark 11:15-17, John 18:28

The Setup

The background of the slide is a photograph of three crosses on a hill. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with a warm, orange and yellow glow in the sky. The crosses are silhouetted against the bright light, and the figures on them are also silhouetted. The ground is a dark, hilly landscape.

- During the day, Jesus was surrounded by crowds of sympathetic people.
- Sympathetic people posed a considerable problem for the authorities.
- Taking no chances, the authorities came for Jesus under the cover of night.
- Jesus knew they would fabricate a case against Him.

Flawed Arrest



- According to the Jewish judicial process, neither arrests or trials were to be conducted at night.
- Two thousand years ago in Israel, justice was under the authority of the Sanhedrin.
- One restraint of the judicial system was that justice was to be performed in the daylight hours.
- Another restraint was, since Jesus was arrested on the information of Judas, under the law of the day, a criminal's associate could not provide evidence needed for an arrest in a capital case.

Flawed Trials

The background of the slide features a photograph of three crosses on a hill, likely representing the crucifixion of Jesus. The crosses are silhouetted against a warm, orange and yellow sunset sky. The central cross is the tallest and most prominent, with a figure on it. Two other crosses are positioned to the left and right, also with figures on them. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

- Not only was the arrest flawed, but the trials were flawed, too.
- From Jesus' first appearance in front of Annas, we see that nobody was really interested in justice.
- Annas had no legal standing in the Jewish community.
- Caiaphas, the High Priest, had already stated publicly his intention to have Jesus killed.

The Trial

The background of the slide features a photograph of three crosses on a hill, silhouetted against a warm, orange and yellow sunset sky. The crosses are arranged in a line, with the central one being the most prominent. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

- Under Jewish law a capital trial could only happen during the daytime; it was still dark.
- Criminal cases were not permitted to be held during religious celebrations.
- A legal trial had to be held in the meeting place of the Sanhedrin, but they were meeting in the home of Caiaphas.
- Jesus was sent to Pilate who, not wanting to alienate the religious leaders, sent Jesus to Herod.
- Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate, saying that Jesus was just annoying.

Conclusion

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- Pilate's wife told him about a dream she had and told Pilate to release Jesus.
- Pilate offered to release one prisoner, either Jesus or a murderer named Barabbas.
- Pilate had Jesus flogged with a steel tipped whip, but even that did not satisfy the bloodlust of the crowd.
- In frustration, Pilate washed his hands of the matter and turned Jesus over for crucifixion.