

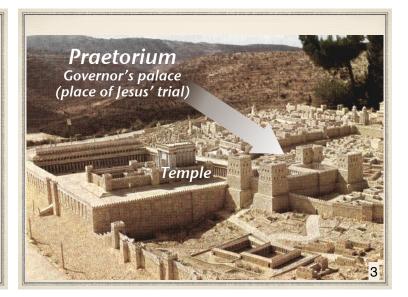
The trials of Jesus

In the Jewish court (blasphemy)

- before Annas (deposed high priest) Jn.18:12-14
- before Caiaphas (sitting high priest) Jn.18:19-24, Matt.26:57-68
- before the Sanhedrin (Jewish ruling council) -Matt.27:1-2, Lk.22:63-71

In the Roman court (disturbing the peace)

- before Pilate ("governor" of Judea) Jn.18:28-38
- before Herod ("governor" of Galilee) Lk.23:6-12
- before Pilate Jn.18:39-19:6, Lk.23:11-12



John 18

"28 They led Jesus therefore from Caiaphas into the Praetorium, and it was early; and they themselves did not enter into the Praetorium in order that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover. 29 Pilate therefore went out to them, and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" 30 They answered and said to him, "If this Man were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." 31 Pilate therefore 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," 32 that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled, which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die."

Matthew 20

"17 And as Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and on the way He said to them, 18 "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, 19 and will deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day He will be raised up.""

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"33 Pilate therefore entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" 34 Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?" 35 Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You up to me; what have You done?" 36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting, that I might not be delivered up to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm." 37 Pilate therefore said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." 38 Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

Three important details

The Passover connection.

"28 and they themselves did not enter into the Praetorium in order that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

· The nature of Jesus' death.

"32 that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled, which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die."

The nature of Jesus' kingdom.

"32... My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting, that I might not be delivered up to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm." 7

Distortions of Christian faith

- It is centered on religious rituals sacraments, special days, and ceremonies.
- It misunderstands the "Word of the Cross".
- It reduces the message to social reform.

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Passover

- · Israel spent 400+ years of captivity in Egypt.
- · God provided a promise of redemption.
- Those who believed were to smear the blood of a sacrificial lamb over the door of their homes so the judgment of God on Egypt would "pass over" them.
- One of the 5 great feasts of Israel a reminder of God's gracious redemption from captivity in Egypt.
- A picture of the ultimate redemption that one day would come.

As they honored the signs of the Passover tradition, the Jews did not recognize or receive the Passover Lamb It foreshadowed who was standing before them

1 Corinthians 5

"6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough? 7 Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed. 8 Let us therefore celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

- Passover is a picture (type) of Christ who would redeem the human race from bondage to sin.
- Blaspheme is to make a mockery of this event with our undisciplined, irreverent, conduct.

Galatians 4

"8 However at that time, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those which by nature are no gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years. 11 I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain."

Romans 14:5

"One man regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind."

11

10

Consider

- Social issues eating and drinking, associations.
- Special days Sabbath observances, holidays.
- Devotional habits "quiet time", prayer, "Bible memory".
- Politics party affiliations, legislative issues.

1 Corinthians 1

"22 For indeed Jews ask for signs, and Greeks search for wisdom; 23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness, 24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

1 Corinthians 11:28

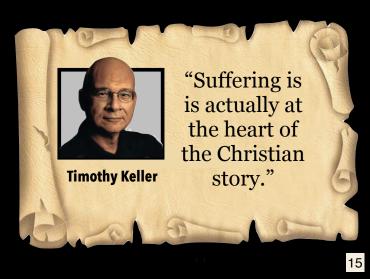
"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

13

Consider

- Jesus' death was a substitutionary atonement - a propitiation for sins. 1 Jn.2:2
- We are baptized into his death a living sacrifice. Rom.6:1-7
- We are to share the fellowship of his suffering - that we might know him. Phil.3:7-11
- We are to bear our cross finding life by losing it





1 Peter 2

"21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in his steps. 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in his mouth; 23 and while being reviled, he did not revile in return; while suffering, he uttered no threats, but kept entrusting himself to Him who judges righteously;"

Matthew 22

"19 "Show me the coin used for the poll-tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20 And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?." 21 They said to him, "Caesar's" Then he said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's." 16

Consider

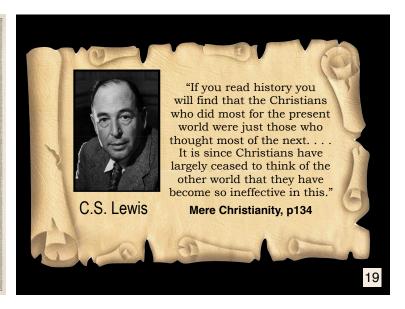
- · We must render to Caesar pay tax to Nero
- Jesus did not convert disciples to be zealots - but just the opposite.
- Jesus' kingdom was not of this world the disciples were not warriors.
- The Apostles taught forbearance
 submission to personal injustice.
- Social reform is centered within the community of faith light and salt in the earth.

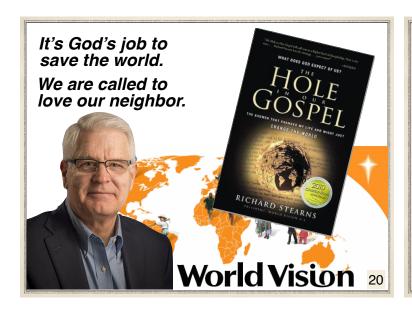
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Four arguments for Christian social responsibility in America.

- **Gal.6:10** "So then, while we have opportunity, let us **do good to all men**, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith."
- "Rendering to Caesar" in a democratic republic places civic responsibility in the hands of the citizens.
- Love compels us to respond with compassion toward those in need.
- Experience teaches us that those who are heavenly minded do the most earthly good.

8





We know nothing but Christ, and him crucified.

1 Corinthians 2:2

- Don't reduce Christianity to ceremony.
- · Don't reduce Christianity to ethics.
- · Don't reduce Christianity to feelings.
- Don't reduce Christianity to social reform.

The main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing, the main thing but not the only thing 21