

THE CIVIL TRIAL OF JESUS—PHASE 1:
JESUS' FIRST APPEARANCE BEFORE PILATE, PART 1
(John 18:28-32)

- I. The SETTING (John 18:28)
 - A. Jesus was taken to the GOVERNOR'S HEADQUARTERS
 - B. It was “early,” probably just after DAWN
 - C. They refused to ENTER the Praetorium
 - 1. They believed they would become UNCLEAN by entering a Gentile RESIDENCE (cf. Nu. 19:11, 14)
 - 2. They were applying the prohibition against CONTACT with a DEAD BODY
 - D. They wanted to avoid DEFILEMENT while MURDERING Jesus

- II. The ACCUSATION (John 18:29-32)
 - A. John speaks of PILATE with no INTRODUCTION
 - 1. He was governor of Judea from AD 26 to 37
 - 2. He earned a reputation for ARROGANCE and POOR JUDGMENT
 - 3. He was eventually removed when SAMARIA complained of his BRUTALITY
 - 4. The Jews HATED Pilate, and he HATED and FEARED the Jews

- B. Pilate WENT OUT to meet them
- C. He demanded they name the CRIME for which Jesus was ACCUSED
 - 1. Pilate could not have been IGNORANT of Jesus' arrest
 - 2. They expected him to pass SENTENCE with no TRIAL
- D. They slandered Jesus' CHARACTER without naming a CRIME
- E. He told them to "JUDGE Him according to your LAW"
- F. They protested that Rome forbade their EXECUTING a criminal
- G. They wanted Jesus to DIE by CRUCIFIXION
 - 1. This was to fulfill prophecy concerning His MANNER of death
 - 2. Jewish executions were by STONING (cf. Acts 7:58-60)
 - 3. They wanted to DISPLAY Jesus as CURSED by God (Deut. 21:22-23)