

**Sermon Text:** Luke 22:66-23:25 Humanity Condemns the King

**According to God's plan, Christ was falsely condemned as a lying, rebellious sinner to justify lying, rebellious sinners who share in His vindication by faith.**

**1) Humanity condemned Christ as a lying sinner.**

- a) Jewish courts condemned Christ for blasphemy (22:66-71).
  - i) Jesus indicts the Jewish council for stubborn unbelief (vv. 67-68)
  - ii) Jesus affirms His Divine Messiahship by biblical allusion (v. 69, cf. Dan. 7:14).
  - iii) Jesus affirms His Divine Sonship by answering their clarifying question (v. 70).
  - iv) As Jesus predicted, they do not believe, but condemn Him for His testimony concerning Himself.
- b) Herod's court condemned Christ for fraud (23:6-12).

**2) Humanity condemned Christ as a rebellious sinner.**

- a) Roman courts condemned Christ for insurrection (23:1-5, 13-25). Jesus charged with: misleading the nation (revolutionary activity); forbidding tribute to Caesar (treason); claiming to be Christ, a king (insurrection)
- b) Pilate's court condemned Christ out of expediency to "keep the peace" (23:13-16, 22-24).

**3) Humanity's condemnation of Christ was part of God's plan to justify sinners.**

- a) Humanity is the lying, rebellious sinner.
  - i) Humanity is the liar:
    - (1) "Your hour and the power of darkness" (Luke 22:53)
    - (2) Gross Injustice/Moral Chaos: releasing Barabbas while crucifying Jesus (23:18-19, 25).
  - ii) Humanity is the rebel:
    - (1) Broke Second Greatest Commandment by false testimony and injustice.
    - (2) Broke the Greatest Commandment to love God.
- b) Their evil plan was God's good purpose: Luke 22:37 "For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in Me: 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.' For what is written about Me has its fulfillment." (cf. Isaiah 53:10-12; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)
- c) Jesus was vindicated by God in His resurrection (Acts 2:32-40). So, faith in Christ is the only way out of humanity's condemnation by God's justice into justification by God's grace.

**Doxology:** To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever! Amen! (Revelation 5:13)