

Jesus' Last Words Before Crucifixion

I. Introduction

In previous sessions, we examined what Jesus told His Disciples in the last night before His arrest. In the midst of His personal crisis in the garden, Jesus modeled patience, self-control, and adherence to the Scriptures, frequently commenting that Scriptures concerning Him had to be fulfilled. Jesus was in complete control of the circumstances, and in total submission to the will of the Father. In this session, we will focus on the events that led up to His death, and His comments before and during His Crucifixion.

II. Jesus Before Caiaphas the High Priest

A. Priests sought false witnesses to put Jesus to death.

Mt 26:59-60 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death; 60But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none....

The Jewish priests and elders sought FALSE witnesses to kill Jesus, and found none.

B. Priests found Jesus guilty of blasphemy.

Mk 14:58-64 58We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands. 59But neither so did their witness agree together. 60And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying, Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witness against thee? 61But he held his peace, and answered nothing, Again the high priest asked him, and the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, The Son of the Blessed? 62And Jesus said I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming the clouds of heaven. 63Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, What need we any further witnesses? 64Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye? And they all condemned him to be guilty of death.

Jesus told the TRUTH, but the Priests accused Him of Blasphemy to condemn Him.

C. Officials assaulted Jesus in the Palace of the High Priest

Mt 26:67-68 Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands, 68Saying, Prophecy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee? (Note in Lk 22:64, they had blindfolded Jesus.)

The chief priests/officials mistreated and assaulted Jesus who they knew was innocent!

D. Jesus was reasonable and controlled when abused.

Jn 18:20-23 Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. 21Why askest thou me? Ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said. 22Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?

III. Peter Outside the Palace

Mt 26:69-75 Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. 70But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. 71And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. 72And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. 73And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also are one of them; for thy speech betrayeth thee. 74Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.

Peter denied Jesus three times with oaths, cursing and swearing. Jesus warned of this.

Lk 22:60-62 And Peter said, Man I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. 61And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. 62And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

Jesus knew Peter did not heed His warning to avoid temptation, and denied Jesus.

IV. Judas Iscariot saw Jesus condemned.

Mt 27:1-5 When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: 2And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor. 3Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4Saying I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? See thou to that. 5And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

Jesus foretold Judas' betrayal; scriptures show the amount, return and use of the money.

V. Jesus before Government Authorities

A. Jesus was questioned by Herod

Lk 23:7, 9, 11 And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time....9Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing....11And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.

Herod questioned Jesus, but Jesus did not answer. Herod sent him back to Pilate.

B. Jesus was interrogated by Governor Pilate.

1. At first Jesus did not speak to Pilate.

Mt 27:13-14 Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee? 14And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marveled greatly.

2. Jesus said His servants would not fight.

Jn 18:33-38 Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? 34Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? 35Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? 36Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. 37Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice. 38Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.

Jesus showed in a private conversation with Pilate that His kingdom was not of this world so His servants had no reason to fight. Pilate found no fault in Jesus.

3. Jesus told Pilate that He had no power over Jesus.

Jn 19:7-12 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. 8When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid; 9And went again in to the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. 10Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? 11Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto

thee hath the greater sin. 12And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar.

Jesus told Pilate he had no power over Jesus except what had been given by God!

4. Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified.

Mt 27:24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it. 25Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children. 26Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Pilate told the leaders Jesus was innocent but had Him crucified anyway. Cursed!

VI. Jesus spoke to the Daughters of Jerusalem on the way to Golgotha.

Lk 23:27-31 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. 28But Jesus turning unto them said, Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. 29For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck. 30Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills, Cover us. 31For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

Jesus told them not to weep for Him, but for them and their children. Death is coming.

VII. Jesus' Words from the Cross.

A. Jesus Cried Out to God asking why He had been forsaken.

Mt 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani +? That is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

With the sin of the world on Jesus, God has to withdraw from Jesus. He cried out.

B. Jesus gave care of His mother over to John.

Jn 19:26-27 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! 27Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.

C. Jesus said He was thirsty.

Jn 19:28-29 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

Jesus was still in command of His faculties, and continued to fulfill scriptures.

D. Jesus asked the Father to forgive them.

Lk 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

Jesus, even in extreme agony, could forgive those who crucified Him and others.

E. Jesus commended His spirit to the Father.

Lk 23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

This eye witness account showed Jesus trusted the Father to the very end of His life.

F. Jesus announced the finish.

Jn 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

While Jesus was on the cross, He triumphantly announced His victory over evil.

VIII. Signs that Accompanied Jesus Death.

A. Darkness over the land

Mt 27:45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

Darkness: Strong's 4655- shadiness, obscurity, particularly spoken of physical darkness, such as the darkness that accompanied the crucifixion.

The land was full of darkness because they had temporarily put out the LIGHT.

B. Veil torn

Mt 27:51-54 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the

bottom and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. 54Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the son of God.

Jesus' physical death was accompanied by darkness, earthquakes, resurrections.

IX. Conclusion

Jesus was written about by the prophet Isaiah (740-697 B.C.):

Is 53:1-12 Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? 2For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness: and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. 3He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him: he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 6All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth,: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. 8He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? For he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. 9And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done on violence, neither was any deceit in this mouth. 10Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him: he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering of sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. 11He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah prophesied over 600 years earlier that the Messiah would suffer these things and be killed for the sins of the people. They still believe that their Messiah will return to rebuild the kingdom of David on earth, when in fact Jesus our Messiah will build a new heaven and earth and we shall reign with Him for all eternity. AMEN!