**Sermon** **Mark 14: 53-65**

**What Is Your Testimony?**

Deuteronomy 19:15-16

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**Before Caiaphas at his house:**

**Part One of the hearing**: False Witnesses. v55-59

**Part Two of the hearing**: False Accusation

v60-64

**Psalm 110:1**

The Lord says to my Lord:
    “Sit at my **right hand**,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

**Daniel 7:13-14**

13 “I saw in the night visions,

and behold, **with the clouds of heaven**

 there came one like a **son of man**,

and he came to the Ancient of Days

 and was presented before him.

14 And to him was given **dominion**

 and **glory** and a **kingdom**,

that all peoples, nations, and languages

 should **serve** **him**;

his dominion is an **everlasting** **dominion**,

 which shall not pass away,

and his **kingdom** one

 that shall **not** **be** **destroyed**.

Everything is illegal.

The arraignment is illegal.

The testimony is illegal.

The interrogation is illegal, and lastly

The sentence is illegal.

**Luke 23:2**,

“They began to accuse Him, saying,

‘We found this man misleading our nation and

forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar and saying that

He Himself is Christ, a King.”

**Mk 10:33-34**

“See, we are going up to Jerusalem,

and the Son of Man will be

**delivered over** to the **chief** **priests** and the **scribes**,

and they will **condemn** him to **death,** and

**deliver** him over to the **Gentiles**.

And they will **mock** **him** and **spit** on **him**,

and **flog** **him** and **kill** **him**.

And after three days **he** **will** **rise**.”

**What is your testimony?**

Practice it. Say it outloud. Testify to what God hgas done for you.

Then share the gospel:

1. Rom 1:17. God is **righteous** and **glorious**.
2. Rom 3:23 All have **sinned** and fall short of that glory
3. Rom 6:23 The **wages** of our **sin** is death
4. Rom 5:8 But while we were **sinners**, **Christ** **died** for us
5. Rom 10:9-10 Ifor you **confess** Jesus is Lord and **believe** in your heart…. you will be **saved**
6. Rom 10:13 Whoever **calls** upon the Lord shall be **saved**.

**Discussion and Application**

1. Why do people get upset when they perceive that something is not fair?

2. Have you ever been in a situation where normal procedures were set aside

for the sake of expediency? When is this warranted? How was the Sanhedrin

reasoning with regard to expediting Jesus' trial?

3. What was the Sanhedrin looking for in the witnesses who were called? In

what situations do we sometimes look for evidence to support preconceived

conclusions? How do we avoid this error?

4. What was the significance of Jesus' using the phrases “I am” and “Son of

Man" in His answer?

5. Have you ever trusted a friend to defend you and then been disappointed?

Were you able to forgive that person and restore the friendship?

6. In what situations are you tempted to make excuses in order to avoid being

identified as a Christian? Are there other situations where you tend to sim

ply lie low and avoid the subject?

7. Was there a time in your past where you denied knowing Jesus? Was there

a time when you were not confronted, but still you could have spoken up

and did not?

8. Do you feel shame and remorse over situations where you could have stood

up for Jesus? Ask forgiveness from God, go back and correct your witness to that person where possible, and resolve, with God's help, to be courageous

in the future.

9. How were Judas's and Peter's sins similar? How were their responses to guilt

different?

10. How did Peter's experiences on that night prepare him for his ministry?

What experiences have you had that help you communicate grace and compassion to others?

11. Why do you think many are we shy about testifying to Christ and sharing the gospel on a moments notice?