



## Sermon Notes: Trying Jesus

### 1. The parties to trying Jesus – and their reasons.

- a. Religious Leaders: control.
- b. Pilate: expediency.
- c. Herod: amusement.
- d. Crowds: disillusionment.

### 2. The irony of trying Jesus.

- a. People assumed the authority to judge God.
- b. People condemned Jesus for claiming to be who he actually was.

### 3. The outcome of trying Jesus.

The heart of the Gospel is this: Christ, the innocent judge was not only judged by sinners, he was also judged for sinners.

- a. Substitutionary atonement.
- b. Sovereign grace.

### 4. The contemporary relevance of trying Jesus.

- a. Repent.
- b. Receive.
- c. Recognize.



## Gospel Applications: Trying Jesus

### Discuss.

1. What stood out to you this time through the story of Christ's Passion?
2. How do you feel when you read these accounts of Christ's Passion?
3. Of the four reasons/motives for putting Jesus on trial that we discussed, which do you identify with most – and why?
4. Give an example of when you recently put God on trial, judging something he did/allowed and expecting him to justify or explain himself. What were you feeling that led you to do that? What were you thinking?
5. Think about specific non-Christians you know. In what ways do they put God on trial? With this in mind, how could you adapt your methodology and tone to more effectively share the Gospel with them?
6. In what ways are you like Barabbas? How does this change the way you think about Christ's Passion and death?
7. How does this story speak to all those times/places in your life when/where you are experiencing trials that seem pointless or even cruel, and you are struggling to understand and trust God?
8. What one thing do you need to do this week with this message?

### Pray.

1. Bring your doubts, questions, and complaints before the Lord – he sees them anyway. Confess where you have sat in judgment of God and repent of the heart attitudes that led you to judge in the first place.
2. Praise God for sending Jesus to be judged by sinful men. Praise him for his willingness to be judged for us – in our place – so that one day, when Christ judges the world, we will be counted innocent in him.