

“Innocence: Tried and Condemned”

(part 2)

Text – Matthew 27:1-26

Series – The Path to the Cross

Jesus faced two distinct trials:

The first, religious and conducted by the Jewish Sanhedrin ;
the second, civil and conducted by Pilate, the Roman governor.

I. Judas – The dilemma of a sin - ridden conscience

Realizing his betrayal had become the catalyst for Jesus’ death,
Judas attempted to redeem himself. (27:3-5)

- A. He was overcome with remorse. (27:3-4a)
- B. He made a futile attempt at restitution. (27:5)

II. The Sanhedrin – The dilemma of a seared conscience (27:6-10)

III. Pilate – The dilemma of a shallow conscience (27:11-25)

- A. Jesus tried in public before Pilate (Luke 23:2; Mt. 27:11; John 18:31)
- B. Pilate tried in private before Jesus (John 18:34-38; Matthew 27:15-21)
- C. Pilate’s predicament (27:22-26)

There was hope ...Pilate had a choice. (27:19, 25-26)