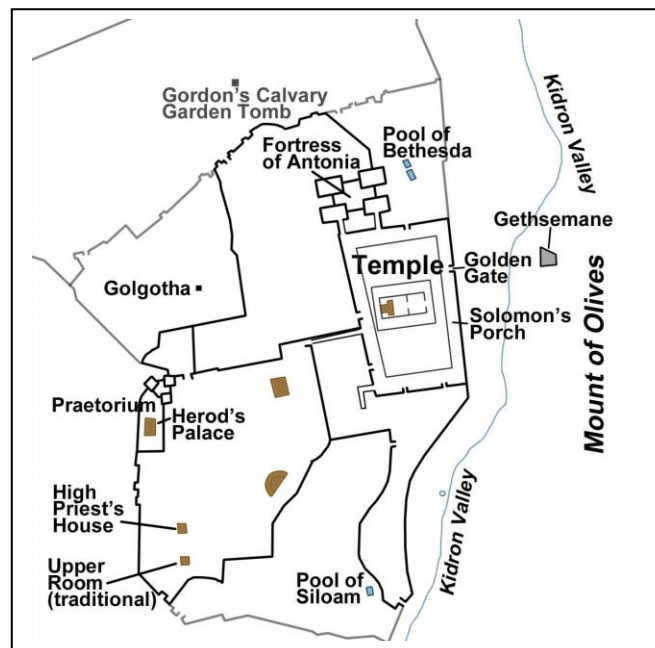




The Passion of the King - 2

It was the night before Jesus was crucified. After He had celebrated the Passover with His disciples they went to the Mount of Olives, to a place called Gethsemene. This was an olive press where olives are crushed to make olive oil. Jesus was about to be crushed too, and He cried out to His Father, "Take this cup from me." Then He surrendered Himself to God's will and said, "Not as I will, but as you will." As He spent time on His knees He was preparing Himself for the suffering He would go through.

Not long after this a large crowd of people entered the garden and Judas came forward to kiss Jesus. He was betrayed and taken prisoner. (Follow the events of that night on the map.)



1. THE KING IS SENTENCED Matthew 26-27

That night Jesus faced two trials. The first was a Jewish trial and the second, a Roman trial.

A. The Jewish Trial Matthew 26:57-68

Jesus was taken to the courtyard where the High Priest lived. All the Sanhedrin had gathered. The Sanhedrin was made up of 71 men including the Chief Priests, Elders and Teachers of the Law. V57, 59. This was the High Court for the Jews. They tried to find false evidence against Jesus, but there was none. Finally the High Priest asked Jesus a question under oath.

High Priest's question v63: _____

Jesus' answer v64: _____

This was all the evidence they needed! To claim to be equal with God was blasphemy. The sentence was: 'He is guilty of death.' V66

B. The Roman Trial Matthew 27:11-26

Jesus was then taken to Pilate, who was the Governor for the Roman Government. Again He was asked a similar question.

Pilate's question v11: _____

Jesus' answer v11: _____

Pilate was amazed with the way Jesus reacted. He realized that Jesus was innocent. What are the things that show Pilate realized this?

V14: _____

V18: _____

V19: _____

V23: _____

V24: _____

Although Pilate knew Jesus was innocent, he handed Him over to be crucified. We can never 'wash our hands' of our sin. We are accountable for it. Pilate had failed. As we read through these chapters we see another man who failed too, and that was Peter.



How did these men fail?
 Why do you think they failed?
 What can we learn from this?

	Scripture references	How did he fail?	Why did he fail?
PILATE	Matthew 27:11-26		
PETER	Matthew 26:33-35, 26:36-37, 40-41, 69-70, 74-75		

Perhaps we have been like Pilate or Peter. We have failed at times of pressure and temptation. Peter wept when he realized his failure and Jesus restored him. He will do that for you too if you have failed.

However there is another man who stands out in this story. He never failed, although He faced far greater pressure and temptation, and that was Jesus.

2. THE KING IS CRUCIFIED Matthew 27:27-37

After the trial Jesus was taken to the Praetorium, which was at Pilate's home. Here He was mocked and beaten. Then He was taken out of the city to be crucified at a place called Golgotha. (See map)



How did Jesus act during this terrible time of suffering? Matthew 26:63, 27:12, 14

What can we learn from His example? See 1 Peter 2:21-23

The charge against Jesus was written on the cross: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' The Jews had been waiting for their promised King, their Messiah for hundreds of years, but now they had crucified Him. However His death was not a failure – it was a triumph. His Kingdom had not come to an end, it was just beginning. As Jesus had said, "In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming in the clouds of Heaven." Matthew 26:64. Let us live for our King!