Easter Teaching

Introduction

I love the Easter Story.   It is one that we think we know very well, after all it is the most important celebration in the Christian calendar.

It is a story of intrigue, betrayal and murder. One of dark deeds behind closed doors, darkness in the hearts of those who wanted Jesus to be silenced.

We can get carried away with the sadness and helplessness of Good Friday, but after that despair, we know there comes a story of glorious victory and triumph. One that shows light in the darkness, dispelling all the shadows and showing the brilliant light of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

With the current COVID-19 crisis we can't celebrate Easter this year our traditional way with our Maundy Supper, Good Friday service at Church, Good Friday witness at the Meadows, the celebration of Easter Sunday when the cross blossoms with flowers, reminding us of new life and that on that instrument of torture, the Son of God died to redeem us of our sin and through that he brought us life.

So I wanted to share with you the story of Easter. It comes in several parts and some are slightly longer than others, but you can dip in and out of them as you wish. And the transcripts are also on the web-site, so can listen, read the transcript or listen and read long at the same time. I hope that the current isolation and lock-down will provide you with time to be able to pick up your Bibles and enjoy this study. I would welcome your feedback.

The Sanhedrin Laws that I refer to in the first few studies are given below as a reference. They are incredibly interesting and I remember being blown-away by them the first time I studied them alongside the trials of Jesus

May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflections up to Good Friday, to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life.

May God be praised: **AMEN**

22 Sanhedrin Laws which were violated during the Trial of Jesus the Messiah

Rule1
There was to be no arrest by religious authorities that was effected by a bribe

Rule 2
No steps of criminal proceedings were to occur after sun-set.

Rule 3
Judges or members of the Sanhedrin were not allowed to participate in an arrest

Rule 4
There were to be no trials before the morning sacrifice

Rule 5
There were to be no secret trials, only public trials

Rule 6
Sanhedrin trials could only be conducted in the Hall of Judgement of the Temple compound

Rule 7
During the trial, the defence had the first word before the prosecutors could present the accusations

Rule 8
All could argue in favour of an acquittal but all could not argue in favour of conviction

Rule 9
There were to be two or three witnesses and their testimony had to agree in every detail

Rule 10
There was to be no allowance for the accused to testify against himself

Rule 11
The High Priest was forbidden to rend his garments

Rule 12

Judges could not initiate charges; they could only investigate charges brought to them

Rule 13
The accusation of blasphemy was only valid if the name of God himself was pronounced

Rule 14
A person could not be condemned solely on the basis of his own words

Rule 15
The verdict could not be pronounced at night

Rule 16
In the case of capital punishment, the trial and the guilty verdict could not occur at the same time, but had to be separated by at least 24 hours

Rule 17
Voting for the death penalty had to be done by individual count, beginning with the youngest, so that the young would not be influenced by the elders

Rule 18
A unanimous decision for guilt showed innocence, since it is impossible for 23 to 71 men to agree without plotting

Rule 19
The sentence could only be pronounced three days after the guilty verdict

Rule 20
Judges were to be humane and kind

Rule 21
A person condemned to death could not be scourged or beaten before his execution

Rule 22
No trials were allowed on the eve of the Sabbath or on a feast day

Sanhedrin Laws typed from Arnold Fruchtenbaum's – 'Yeshua – The life of Messiah from a Messianic Jewish Perspective – Volume 4'

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