

Jesus' Midnight Trials
Matthew 26—27

Jesus' Trials Took Place <i>in the Middle of the Night</i>
Disciples sleep in garden of Gethsemane (Matt. 26:40, 43, 45)
Judas entered the garden with lanterns (John 18:3)
Peter warms himself by fire (Mark 14:54; Luke 22:55; John 18:18, 25)
Rooster crows (Matt. 26:74; Mark 14:68, 72; Luke 22:60; John 18:27)
'When morning came' (Matt. 27:1)

Jesus Arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane 11:00 P.M. Thursday		
1st Trial Midnight	Taken before Annas , father-in-law, former high priest (John 18:13-23)	- Annas looks for accusation (John 18:19-21), biding time until the Sanhedrin can be gathered - Annas sends Jesus to Caiaphas (John 18:24)
2nd Trial 1:00 A.M.	Questioned before Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin (Matt. 26:57-75; Mark 14:53; Luke 22:54)	- Sought testimony against Jesus to put him to death (Matt. 26:59; Mark 14:55) - Jesus was silent (Matt. 26:62-63; Mark 14:60-61) - When Jesus is put under oath, He admits to being the Messiah and Son of Man from Daniel 7 (Matt. 26:63-64; Mark 14:61-62)
3rd Trial 5:00 A.M.	Sanhedrin condemned Jesus to death for blasphemy (Matt. 27:1; Mark 15:1)	- The following morning (Matt. 27:1; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66) - Sanhedrin reconvenes, as it was required to wait until dawn to give an official verdict, and repeats the earlier confession and condemnation (Luke 22:66-71)
4th Trial 6:00 A.M.	Jesus brought before Pilate (Matt. 27:2; Mark 15:1-5; Luke 23:1-5; John 18:28)	- Pilate asks for their accusation against Jesus (John 18:29) and, after trying to get a sentence without an accusation (John 18:29), they level false accusations (Luke 23:2) - After a private interview with Jesus (John 18:33-38), Pilate concludes, "I find no guilt in this man" (Luke 23:14-15; John 18:38) and intends to release him (Luke 23:15) - After the people insist that Jesus stirs up trouble in Galilee (Luke 23:5), Pilate sends Jesus to Herod (Luke 23:5-7) whose jurisdiction includes Galilee
5th Trial 7:00 A.M.	Pilate sends Jesus to Herod Antipas (Luke 23:6-12)	- Herod desired to see a sign (Luke 23:8) but Jesus was silent (Luke 23:9) - After mocking and abusing Jesus (Luke 23:11) and yet finding him guiltless (Luke 23:15), Herod returned Jesus to Pilate (Luke 32:11)
6th Trial 8:00 A.M.	Herod returns Jesus to Pilate (Matt. 27:27-31; Luke 23:13-25)	- Pilate used the time while Jesus was with Herod to devise a scheme to go around the Sanhedrin and release Jesus: Get the people to ask for his release - But, the chief priests had already convinced the people to ask for Barabbas (Matt. 27:20; Mark 15:11), which they do (Matt. 27:21; Luke 23:18-19; John 19:40) - Pilate's next attempt is to demonstrate Jesus' harmlessness by having him scourged (Matt. 27:26; Mark 15:15; John 19:1) - When this doesn't work and the people demand Jesus' crucifixion (Matt. 27:22-23; Mark 15:12-15; Luke 23:21; John 19:6), Pilate again takes Jesus for a private interview (John 19:9-11) which only confirms Pilate's resolve to release Jesus (John 19:12) - However, the people threaten Pilate with "not being Caesar's friend" (John 19:12) if he were to release a rival claimant to the throne, and, not being on the best terms with Caesar already, Pilate washes his hands of this condemnation (Matt. 27:24-25) and delivers Jesus to be crucified (John 19:16)
Jesus Hangs on the Cross 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.		