

III. JESUS WAS TRIED

A. He was falsely accused.

⁵⁹ *“Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death,”*
Matthew 26:59

B. He confesses His true identity and future glory.

⁶² *“And the high priest arose and said to Him, ‘Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?’*

⁶³ *But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, ‘I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!’*

⁶⁴ *Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.’”*
Matthew 26:62-64

C. He was sentenced to death.

⁶⁶ *“‘What do you think?’ They answered and said, ‘He is deserving of death.’”*
Matthew 26:66

D. He was severely persecuted.

⁶⁷ *“Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands,*

⁶⁸ *saying, ‘Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?’”*
Matthew 26:67-68

E. Application: Stand firm on speaking the truth. Jesus knew His words would incriminate Him, yet He said them anyway.

¹³ *“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.”*
I Corinthians 16:13

¹² *“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”*
II Timothy 3:12

BE TRANSFORMED BY THE GREATER LOVE TRIAL

GREATER LOVE Greater Love Trial Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. It wasn't the nails in His hands and feet that held Jesus to the cross. It was the greater love for all of humanity that caused Jesus to endure the cross. Jesus revealed that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for others. He demonstrated that greater love when He voluntarily laid down His life for us.

¹³ *“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.”* John 15:13

¹⁴ *“I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.*

¹⁵ *As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.*

¹⁷ *‘Therefore, My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.*

¹⁸ *No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.’”*
John 10:14-15, 17-18

B. Let Jesus come alive in your life this Easter! Attend the Greater Love Teaching Series to witness three major scenes surrounding the death of Jesus and be transformed by the greater love of Jesus.

Mar 30
TODAY
Apr 13

Greater Love Prayer
Greater Love Trial
Greater Love Sacrifice

C. TEXT: Matthew 26:47-68

Jesus was involved in six trials. These trials can be divided into two categories which are Jewish and Religious Trials and Roman and Civil Trials. This sermon will focus on Jesus' trial before Caiaphas the High Priest.

HOW TO BE TRANSFORMED BY THE GREATER LOVE TRIAL

I. JESUS WAS BETRAYED

A. He was betrayed by Judas.

⁴⁷ “And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people.

⁴⁸ Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, ‘Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him.’

⁴⁹ Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, ‘Greetings, Rabbi!’ and kissed Him.” Matthew 26:47-49

B. He was betrayed by all the disciples.

⁵⁵ “In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, ‘Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me.

⁵⁶ But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.” Matthew 26:55-56

C. Application: Relationships are messy and sometimes we will be betrayed by people.

⁹ “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?” Jeremiah 17:9

¹² “For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; then I could hide from him.

¹³ But it was you, a man my equal, my companion and my acquaintance.

¹⁴ We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in the throng.” Psalm 55:12-14

²² “Cast your burden on the LORD, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

²³ But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction; bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in You.”

Psalm 55:22-23

II. JESUS WAS ARRESTED

A. He demonstrated self-control.

⁵⁰ “But Jesus said to him, ‘Friend, why have you come?’ Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him.

⁵¹ And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

⁵² But Jesus said to him, ‘Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.’”

Matthew 26:50-52

B. He demonstrated submission.

⁵³ “Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?

⁵⁴ How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?” Matthew 26:53-54

⁶² “And the high priest arose and said to Him, ‘Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?’

⁶³ But Jesus kept silent....” Matthew 26:62-62a

C. Application: Know the arrest of Jesus was part of God’s plan of salvation and the fulfillment of Bible prophecy.

²⁰ “knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,

²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

II Peter 1:20-21

⁷ “He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.” Isaiah 53:7