WHO IS THIS MAN?

WHY RELIGION HATES THE SAVIOR

Mark 14:53-65 Jeff Schreve

"You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death." Mark 14:64

Does religion really hate the Savior?

1. There is the <u>evidence</u> of the hatred.

"You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in all your towns which the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not distort justice; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you." Deuteronomy 16:18-20

- A. Because of hatred, they violated all protocols of justice.
- B. Because of hatred, they <u>brought forth false witnesses</u>. The leading priests and the high council tried to find something against Jesus so that they could kill him. They tried to find people to lie and say that Jesus had done wrong. Matthew 26:59 ERV
- C. Because of hatred, they <u>had their verdict before the trial</u>. Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death; and they were not finding any. Mark 14:55
- D. Because of hatred, they <u>played the blasphemy trump card</u>. Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. Leviticus 24:16
- E. Because of hatred, they <u>could not control their actions</u>. And some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, "Prophesy!" And the officers received Him with slaps in the face. Mark 14:65

2. There is the <u>reason</u> for the hatred.

A. The Savior is a <u>threat</u> to religion.

- 1. Religion is rooted in pride and self-effort.
- 2. Religion is rooted in seniority and the point system.
- 3. Religion is rooted in position and power.

B. The Savior exposes religion.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. Even so you too outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how shall you escape the sentence of hell?" Matthew 23:27-28, 33

The Savior will save anyone who turns to Him.