

Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

It's just hours before Jesus will be crucified. The Jewish leaders now have what they have sought for so long—a charge against Jesus to justify His execution. Now they must persuade the Roman authorities that Jesus is a danger to the Empire.

The Jewish Council

They are relentless in pursuit of Jesus' execution.

- They all deliver Jesus to Pilate. 23.1
- They make charges against Jesus Pilate can't ignore. .2
- They reject Pilate's declaration of innocence, and amplify their charge against Jesus. .5
- They follow Jesus and accuse Him before Herod. .10

Herod

- This is not *Herod the Great*, who tried to kill baby Jesus.
- This is not *Herod Agrippa* who killed the apostle James.
- This is not *Herod Agrippa II* who heard the testimony of Paul.
- This is *Herod Antipas*, the tetrarch over the region of Galilee, who killed John the Baptist, and has wanted to interrogate Jesus.

Pilate

These are possible motives for passing Jesus on to Herod:

- An unwillingness to punish an innocent man.
- A desire to pass the buck—to absolve himself from responsibility.
- To make up for political missteps and repair the rift with Herod.

Jesus

- **The Innocent One**—Jesus is fully human, as we are, with one exception—He was sinless.
- **The Reconciler of Enemies** - Before Jesus ,we were at enmity with God. Jesus reconciles us to God.