



## **NEWSCAST 19. THE TRIAL**

.... A second trial before Pontius Pilate was necessary for only the Roman governor had the power to carry out a capital sentence.

The Sanhedrin had condemned Jesus on religious grounds. But he was arraigned before Pilate on the political implications of being the Messiah, the one who was expected to bring the Jews victory over the Romans. A purely religious charge would have been of no interest to the Roman, Pilate.

Pilate, however, was reluctant to handle the case and was clearly disturbed and impressed by Jesus. This was an unexpected problem for Caiaphas, the High Priest, who had expected Pilate to ratify the Sanhedrin's verdict without further ado — most likely on the basis of an agreement reached the previous evening. But all Pilate's efforts to have Jesus released met with concerted opposition and finally crumbled at the suggestion that his own position might be endangered.

So, in order to avoid any trouble, Pilate gave the order for Jesus to be executed.

### **Biblical references:**

**John Chapter 18 v. 28 — Chapter 19 v. 16;**

**Matthew Chapter 27 v.11 – 26;**

**Luke Chapter 23 v.1- 25.**