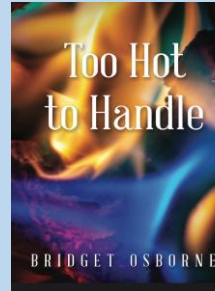


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APRIL 2025

AN INNOCENT MAN WAS FOUND GUILTY AND CRUCIFIED FOR YOU!

Dear Chosen One: The Word of God says, **“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me [Jesus] ...”** (Matthew 5:11.)

We are living in difficult times. We are in an era where many people are only focusing on climbing the corporate ladder, gaining prestige, ruining other people's lives to promote their careers at the cost of other people's misfortune or downfall. It is not unusual or strange when we hear of someone being convicted of a crime that he or she did not commit or sent to prison for a crime he or she has not committed. Presently, there are lots of innocent people in prison; some were convicted on circumstantial evidence by witnesses fabricating lies and other illegal factors that some prosecutors were willing to use in order to secure convictions and, at the same time, move them up the legal corporate ladder.

Many individuals in our society have become judgmental and hard-hearted towards individuals when they fall from GRACE. They throw love, mercy, and forgiveness out the window. However, when misfortune happens to these same people or one of their family members, these individuals are the first to cry out for mercy. I can assure you that there are many innocent people in prison who were convicted without evidence.

Now, let's examine the story about Jesus' crucifixion and see if there was sufficient evidence to convict Him, find Him Guilty or Crucify Him. Jesus' conviction and death penalty benefited many religious and political people during His era. You

may say that Jesus' incident happened over two thousand years ago and in those days there was no modern technology to avoid such injustice. I agree there were no DNA testing, cameras to replay what actually happened, no forensic experts, lie detector tests, or any of the technology that is used today at crime scenes. Today, many people have presumed that society has a better Judicial System since many laws are being upheld, and many prisons are filled, but hold on until you examine the truth. **Truth cannot be changed but some presented facts are subject to change.**

Yes, today we have more modern and sophisticated technologies, but corruption, hatred, and injustice are historical and that hasn't changed. There are corrupted individuals in every profession, community, department, and office in this world. Oftentimes, you may hear someone say that a person is innocent until proven guilty. However, some people in society still feel people are guilty before they get charged or convicted of any crime. Jesus says when these things happen **“Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you”** (Matthew 5:12.) As a matter of fact, Jesus faced this same kind of misconception and injustice before His trial.

Before Jesus' trial began some powerful people who had influence in the Justice Department suggested that Jesus should get the death penalty. My point is look what they did to Jesus so why do people expect anything less from some of our elected

government today. If Jesus was accused today for the same reasons: Preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, raising the dead, and announcing that He is the Son of God--would He be acquitted or get convicted and executed?

Here are some substantial legal elements that were **never** taken into consideration at Jesus' trial.

1. **Then chief priests and Pharisees called the council together and said, 'What shall we do?' This man is working a lot of miracles! If we don't stop him now, everyone will put their faith in him. Then the Romans will come and destroy our Temple and our nation!'** (John 11:47-48.) Their actions were premeditated and intentional. They convicted Jesus out of fear--thinking that the Romans were going to destroy what they had built.

2. False witnesses were sought to testify against Jesus. **"...At last, two men came forward and said, 'This man claimed he could tear down God's temple and build it again in three days'"** (Matthew 26:60-61.) Jesus was referring to **"His Body"** as the Temple and **not** the religious building. These witnesses committed perjury. They were never screened nor cross examined because they were selected to testify falsely against Jesus.

3. Jesus had no Defense attorney to represent Him at trial. They badgered Him. **"They said, 'Tell us! Are you the Messiah?' Jesus replied, 'If I said so, you wouldn't believe me...But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right side of God All-Powerful. Then they asked, 'Are you the Son of God?'"** (Luke 22:67-70.) They questioned Jesus and tried Him without legal representation, this was **legal grounds** for dismissal.

4. During questioning an officer of the court assaulted Jesus. **"The High priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about this teaching. Jesus answered, 'I have always spoken publicly to everyone; all my teaching was done in the synagogues and in the Temple...Question the**

people who heard me. Ask them what I told them- ... When Jesus said this, one of the guards there slapped him and said, 'how dare you talk to the High Priest!'" (John 12:19-22) This was illegal and an abuse of power, but no one objected.

5. The High Priest put Jesus under oath and then incriminated him for what He said. **"In the name of the living God I now put you under oath: 'Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God'. Jesus answered him, 'So you say. But I tell all of you: from this time on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right side of the Almighty and coming on the clouds of heaven'! At this the High Priest tore his clothes and said, 'Blasphemy!...He is guilty and must die.'" (Matthew 26:63-66.)** Jesus was condemned for telling the truth. He revealed His true identity, and they called it blasphemy and condemned Him to death.

6. Jesus received two sets of punishments for the same crime. They flogged *and* crucified Him for the same crime. **"Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged...As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him [Jesus], they shouted, 'Crucify! Crucify!' Finally, Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified."** (Read John 19:1-42.)

Although we are living in the 21st century, some things haven't changed. Injustice is still taking place. Many people are still being wrongfully convicted. Fabricated stories are still being used in courts to gain convictions, especially for minorities. Many Judicial systems are still using their unbalanced scale favoring the wealthy and elite while convicting the poor and minorities. The Bible tells us that on **"Judgment Day"** everyone will give account for his or her own actions. If you have or are facing any kind of injustice, humiliation, or have been insulted or persecuted because you have decided to put your Faith in Jesus, Don't worry! God will fight your battles, He promised not to leave nor forsake you during your time of difficulties. Hold on! The battle is not yours - it's the LORD'S! Remember Jesus has never lost any battle.