

Name _____

Why They Killed Jesus

As you view the scenes from the film *Jesus of Nazareth* (1977, 382 minutes, not rated), consider the statement the director is making about who is responsible for the death of Jesus and why.

Scene 1: Judas and Zealots at the Burial of John the Baptist

1. What does the director want you to notice about Judas's attitude toward the Zealots (in their discussion about John and Jesus)?
2. Given Judas's speech about Jesus, what does Judas believe about Jesus?

Scene 2: Judas Meets with the Zealots

3. What does the director want you to notice regarding Judas's attitude toward the Zealots' plan?

Scene 3: Events in Jerusalem Leading to the Passion and Death

The first scene introduces the fictional character Zerah, who embodies those in the Sanhedrin who seek to kill Jesus.

Judas Meets with Zerah

4. What does Judas want?
5. What is Zerah's attitude toward Judas?



Jesus Cleanses the Temple

6. Knowing this major event foreshadows the Passion and death of Christ, what might the director want you to notice about the reactions of the members of the Sanhedrin/Zerah?

Jesus Teaches in Jerusalem

7. What does the director want you to notice about the following two groups?

Pharisees:

Zealots:

Meeting of Sanhedrin

8. What does the director want you to notice regarding the following:

Positive comments about Jesus:

Negative comments about Jesus:

Specific concerns:



From the Agony in the Garden through the Sanhedrin Trial

9. What motive(s) or attitude(s) does the director ascribe to Judas?

In the garden:

In the courtyard:

10. How does the director characterize those involved in the Sanhedrin's trial?

Caiaphas (desire, concerns, intent):

Those "defending Jesus" (desire, concerns, intent):

Those "against Jesus" (desire, concerns, intent):

Jesus' response:



Pilate/Romans

11. How does the director characterize/attribute responsibility to the following?

Pilate (desire, intent, attitudes):

Zerah/Sanhedrin (desire, intent, attitudes):

Roman Soldiers at Scourging Scene (desire, intent, attitudes):

In the Praetorium

12. How does the director characterize/attribute responsibility to the following?

Pilate:

Zerah:

Crowd:

