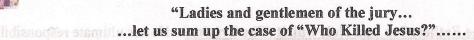


## WHO KILLED JESUS?





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- 1 The Roman Soldiers They literally drove the nails into his hands and physically killed Him.

  But They were just doing their job. They probably didn't know any details.

  However They did mock Jesus. They surely heard of Jesus. Nazis gassed Jews as a job.
  - 2 Pontius Pilate He alone could execute or spare Jesus. He judged. He commanded the soldiers.

    But He washed his hands of it. He was sympathetic. He was pressured. Jesus didn't help.

    However He did have Jesus killed. He put up a notice. He arranged a guard. He crumbled.
  - 3 <u>The Jewish Leaders</u> They bounced Pilate. They changed the accusation. They broke their own rules.

    But They sincerely believed Jesus was false, wicked, dangerous to their people's faith.

    However They were sincerely wrong. They were devious, illegal, manipulative, vindictive.
  - Caiaphas He was the unholy ring-leader. He forced the issue. He broke the Jewish rules for trials.
     But He didn't act alone. He had to protect people from false messiahs (like he thought Jesus was).
     However He had arrogant ignorance, rigid legalism, pre-judgments and lacked integrity/humanity.
  - The Crowd They cried "Crucify Him!" They were malevolent, fickle or silent. They taunted Jesus.
     But They did not arrest, try or pass sentence, nor crucify Jesus.
     However They did decide "crucify", they did watch, support and participate in Jesus' suffering.
  - Judas Iscariot He played a key role in betraying Jesus.
     But He did not kill Jesus single-handedly nor literally.
     However He hurt Jesus deeply. He uniquely facilitated the crucifixion. He admitted his guilt.
  - 7 <u>Oue sera...sera</u> Whatever will be will be. If wanted Jesus enters the lions' den He will get bitten.

    But Don't blame "Life". It was unnatural, unnecessary, avoidable. It was wicked.

    However Actions have consequences (intended and unintended).
  - 8 Fate, Luck, Chance If these exist normally in life then they must have played a part.

    But God is in control. People have free will. Most suspects here admit their role.

    However God leaves some slack space. People do risk their luck, take chances.
  - 9 <u>The Devil, Evil</u> "Principalities and Powers" oppose God. It was obviously an evil deed.

    But God has the last word (no dualism). Humans have responsibility for their own actions.

    However God had to come to deal with evil; and humans were tempted and pressured by evil.

- 10 <u>Human Beings, Us</u> If we had not sinned, then and now, Jesus would not have had to die. Sin kills.

  But We did not crucify Jesus. We weren't there, weren't even born and weren't consulted.

  However Jesus did die for us and our sins. We daily crucify Him. It is a timeless matter.
- 11 God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (The Trinity) He has ultimate responsibility. His will is done.

  But God does not sin. God does not crucify anyone. God does not want suffering and death.

  However Given the world's mess, God circumstantially budgeted for the Cross
- Jesus Himself He said that He laid down His own life, willingly; no one took it from Him forcibly.

  But It was not suicide. He got help! No sin, no need to die. He is God: God the Son.

  However Jesus freely embroiled Himself in our world and let all the other suspects have sway.

