

Were you there?

Script: “Framed” - Court Scene

Opens with video shots of Jesus performing miracles

Narration: (recorded) It was early morning, Jesus had been awake all night hustled from one trial to another. He was brought before Annas, Caiaphas, and an assembly of religious leaders called the Sanhedrin.

He had been tied up, battered and falsely accused.

The religious leaders searched out witnesses to present any and all evidence leading to a death sentence verdict, but all that had been presented was nothing more than lies creating only more confusion to this whole ordeal.

Jesus was then taken to the Roman Governor.... only he could give permission for crucifixion.

Court room scene begins

(Raise lights)

Judge: (looking at Jesus) You have been charged with inciting the people to riot and forbidding them to pay their taxes. How do you answer these charges?

Jesus: (says nothing, looks at crowd)

Judge: I do not find this man to be guilty of these charges. As is our custom, the people can choose a condemned man to be granted leniency and be released. So I give you the choice... Barabbas, a convicted murderer... or this Jesus, who you have no substantial charges against. Whom do you choose to be released?

Crowd: (shouting louder and louder) “Barabbas! Barabbas! Released to us Barabbas...Free Barabbas!”

Judge: (smacking gavel on table) Order in the court! ... So you want Barabbas released?... so be it. It would be appropriate to have Jesus scourged and then released.

Prosecutor: (stands up) But he claims to be a king! This is in direct violation of Roman law. There is only one king, Ceasar!

Judge: (looking at Jesus) How do you answer to the charges of being a king?

Jesus: (says nothing)

Judge: (Irritated) Are you a king?!

Jesus: You have said so.

Prosecutor: (scoffs and sits with annoyance)

Judge: (looks toward jury) Has the jury reached a verdict on the charges brought against Jesus?

Foreperson of jury: (stands up) The jury has found Jesus, guilty of the charges, claiming to be a king, the son of God.

Judge: (sarcastically) Jesus. King of the Jews. I absolve myself of any responsibility in this case.... What do you propose as a sentence?

Foreperson of jury: (slowly) Death!... Crucify him. (All jurors join in along with crowd) Crucify him! Crucify him! (Angrily and now standing) CRUCIFY HIM!

Security officer: (grabs Jesus and leads him out of courtroom, back into the garden.)

Guides quickly move spectators into hallway. Jury continues to yell "Crucify Him!"

Scene ends with devil handing out nails in hallway to spectators saying quietly, "Crucify Him."