



John 18:15-40, Lesson #49, Jesus Presented to the High Priest (Caiphas) and the Roman Governor in Jerusalem, Pontius Pilate

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REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK: *John 18:1-14 JESUS IS BETRAYED AND ARRESTED*

- Jesus crosses the Kidron Valley with his disciples.
- They entered a familiar place called the Garden of Gethsemane.
- Judas knew this area because he had gone there with Jesus many times.

NOTE OF IMPORTANCE: Matthew 26:14-16: Judas wants to cash in at the cost of killing Jesus—14 Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went to the leading priests 15 and asked, “How much will you pay me to betray Jesus to you?” And they gave him thirty pieces of silver. 16 From that time on, Judas began looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

- **The Jewish priests had given Judas a squad of Roman soldiers with torches, lanterns and weapons.**
- **Jesus knowing what was going to happen asked, “Who are you looking for.”**
 - ✓ The priests and pharisees responded, “Jesus of Nazareth.”
 - ✓ Jesus answered, “I am he.” And they all fell backward on the ground.
 - ✓ Jesus told the Jewish leaders, “Let these others go, I am the one you want.”
 - ✓ Spontaneous Peter drew his sword and cuts the ear off of Malchus, the high priests slave. • Jesus speaks firm words to Peter about what he had just done.
 - ✓ Jesus is arrested and his hands are tied and taken to Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest.

NOTE OF IMPORTANCE: Luke 22:54: Peter follows Jesus in the shadows 54 So they arrested him and led him to the high priest’s home. And Peter followed at a distance.

John 18:15-40 (This week's lesson):

(Peter's First Denial)

15 Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did another of the disciples. That other disciple was acquainted with the high priest, so he was allowed to enter the high priest's courtyard with Jesus. 16 Peter had to stay outside the gate. Then the disciple who knew the high priest spoke to the woman watching at the gate, and she let Peter in. 17 The woman asked Peter, "You're not one of that man's disciples, are you?" "No," he said, "I am not." 18 Because it was cold, the household servants and the guards had made a charcoal fire. They stood around it, warming themselves, and Peter stood with them, warming himself.

The Evil and Unlawful Trial of Jesus:

19 Inside, the high priest began asking Jesus about his followers and what he had been teaching them. 20 Jesus replied, "Everyone knows what I teach. I have preached regularly in the synagogues and the Temple, where the people[e] gather. I have not spoken in secret. 21 Why are you asking me this question? Ask those who heard me. They know what I said." 22 Then one of the Temple guards standing nearby slapped Jesus across the face. "Is that the way to answer the high priest?" he demanded. 23 Jesus replied, "If I said anything wrong, you must prove it. But if I'm speaking the truth, why are you beating me?" 24 Then Annas bound Jesus and sent him to Caiaphas, the high priest.

NOTE OF IMPORTANCE: John 13:37-38: Jesus predicts Peter's Denial of Knowing Jesus (Being one of His followers), 37 "But why can't I come now, Lord?" he asked. "I'm ready to die for you." 38 Jesus answered, "Die for me? I tell you the truth, Peter— before the rooster crows tomorrow morning, you will deny three times that you even know me.

Peter's Second and Third Denials

25 Meanwhile, as Simon Peter was standing by the fire warming himself, they asked him again, "You're not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "No, I am not." 26 But one of the household slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Didn't I see you out there in the olive grove with Jesus?" 27 Again Peter denied it. And immediately a rooster crowed.

NOTE OF IMPORTANCE: Matthew 26:74-75: Peter weeps bitterly for what he said 74 Peter swore, “A curse on me if I’m lying—I don’t know the man!” And immediately the rooster crowed. 75 Suddenly, Jesus’ words flashed through Peter’s mind: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.” And he went away, weeping bitterly.

We wonder today what Peter was contemplating as to being the curse placed on him for lying?

Lying is a sin...but, forgivable where there is repentance and acknowledgement of the sin. Evidently, the lie was on the conscious of Peter until he gave in to the Holy Spirit’s urging of turning his (Peter’s) life over to the power of the Holy Spirit who glorifies Jesus in every way.

Jesus’ trial before Pilate

28 Jesus’ trial before Caiaphas ended in the early hours of the morning. Then he was taken to the headquarters of the Roman governor. His accusers didn’t go inside because it would defile them, and they wouldn’t be allowed to celebrate the Passover. 29 So Pilate, the governor, went out to them and asked, “What is your charge against this man?” 30 “We wouldn’t have handed him over to you if he weren’t a criminal!” they retorted. 31 “Then take him away and judge him by your own law,” Pilate told them. “Only the Romans are permitted to execute someone,” the

Jewish leaders replied. 32!(This fulfilled Jesus’ prediction about the way he would die.)! 33!Then Pilate went back into his headquarters and called for Jesus to be brought to him. “Are you the king of the Jews?” he asked him.! 34!Jesus replied, “Is this your own question, or did others tell you about me?”! 35!“Am I a Jew?” Pilate retorted. “Your own people and their leading priests brought you to me for trial. Why? What have you done?”! 36!Jesus answered, “My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world.”! 37!Pilate said, “So you are a king?”! Jesus responded, “You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true.”! 38!“What is truth?” Pilate asked. Then he went out again to the people and told them, “He is not guilty of any crime. 39!But you have a custom of asking me to release one prisoner each year at Passover. Would you like me to release this ‘King of the Jews’?”! 40!But they shouted back, “No! Not this man. We want Barabbas!”

(Barabbas was a revolutionary.)!

NOTE OF IMPORTANCE: John 10:17-18 Jesus voluntarily laid his life down for mankind.

17 "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. 18 No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded."

Remember, Jesus always speaks the truth!

John 14:6, "Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."