

## Who is Jesus? – The Gospel of John

### Chapter 18

#### 18:1-11 – Jesus betrayed by Judas

- Gardens<sup>1</sup>
  - Eden: disobedience and sin
  - Gethsemane: obedience and submission
  - Heaven: delight and satisfaction
- Cohort<sup>2</sup> (Battalion) – 1/10th of a legion or 600 men
- “I am He.” – [Psa 27:2](#) When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.
- To fulfill the word which He spoke – 17:12
- Jesus didn't want a rebellion, He wanted to fulfill all that the Father had given Him to do, that is why He healed Malchus' ear
- The Cup – usually refers to experiencing suffering and sorrow. Jesus prayed three times to have it taken from Him, but chose submission instead.
  - **Wiersbe**<sup>3</sup> – “Since the Father had mixed and measured the contents of the cup, Jesus knew He had nothing to fear.”

#### 18:12-14 – Jesus arrested and taken to Annas

- Annas was high priest previously but Caiaphas was put in place by Rome. He was succeeded by five of his sons, Caiaphas, his son-in-law, and a grandson.<sup>4</sup>

Religious Trials <sup>5</sup>		Civil Trials	
Annas	Joh 18:12-14, 19-23	Pilate	Joh 18:28-38
Caiaphas	Mat 26:57-68; Mar 14:53-65	Herod	Luk 23:6-12
Sanhedrin	Mat 27:1-2; Luk 22:66-71	Pilate	John 18:39-19:6

#### 18:15-18 – Peter's first denial

- Peter was denied entrance initially to the compound but gained entrance when a disciple who was “known to the high priest” brought him in; could have been John, or Joseph of Arimathea or Nicodemus.<sup>6</sup>
- **Wiersbe**<sup>7</sup> – “As you watch Peter, you see him gradually moving into the place of temptation and sin...” Psa 1 – walk, stood, and sat (Joh 18; Luk 22)

#### 18:19-24 – Jesus before Annas, then sent to Caiaphas

- Religious trial seeking to find Jesus guilty of blasphemy and heresy.<sup>8</sup>
- **Believer's Bible Commentary** – “**The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His teachings**, as if these posed a threat to the Mosaic Law and the Roman government. It is obvious that these people had

- Salome, Mary's sister.<sup>15</sup>

#### 19:28-30 – Jesus' death

- Jesus drank the sour wine here but didn't drink the vinegar mixed with gall because it was believed to be a pain reliever.<sup>16</sup>

#### 19:31-42 – Jesus is pronounced dead and buried in a tomb

- Soldiers didn't break His legs, even though usually did to speed death.
- Soldiers did pierce His side, even though this was never done.<sup>17</sup>
- The Eyewitness – probably John: “so that you may believe” – 20:30-31
- Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus exposed themselves as disciples and made themselves ceremonially unclean and unable to eat the Passover meal because they touched Jesus' dead body. Quite a contrast to the Jewish leaders in 18:28.
- Most commentators believe that to have that much material ready for a burial means they probably had it purchased ahead of time.

### There and Then: Here and Now

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study\*: *my LOG vs others SPECK*

**S** – Is there a *sin* for me to avoid or confess?

**P** – Is there a *promise* from God for me to claim?

**E** – Is there an *example* for me to follow?

**C** – Is there a *command* for me to obey?

**K** – How can this passage increase my *knowledge* about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit?

Are there *principles* to guide?

Are there *warnings* to heed?

Are there *attitudes* to adopt?

Are there *actions* to take?

### Bibliography

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Wiersbe, Warren. *The Bible Exposition Commentary: Matthew - Galatians*. Vol. 5. 6 vols. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books; SP Publications, Inc., 1989. Print.

<sup>15</sup> (Wiersbe 383; Hendriksen; MacDonald and Farstad) and others on John 19:25b.

<sup>16</sup> (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 19:29.

<sup>17</sup> (Wiersbe 385) on John 19:31-34.

\* *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (with additions) & Matthew 7:1-5.

<sup>1</sup> (Wiersbe 372) on John 18:1.

<sup>2</sup> (Wiersbe; *NASB Topical Reference Bible*) on John 18:3 and “Cohort”.

<sup>3</sup> (Wiersbe 375) on John 18:11.

<sup>4</sup> (Wiersbe; MacDonald and Farstad; Walvoord and Zuck; Hendriksen) on John 18:12

<sup>5</sup> (Walvoord and Zuck) on Jesus trials, Mat 26:57-58.

<sup>6</sup> (Walvoord and Zuck; MacDonald and Farstad; Wiersbe 375) on John 18:15-16.

<sup>7</sup> (Wiersbe 375) on John 18:15-18.

<sup>8</sup> (MacDonald and Farstad; Walvoord and Zuck) on John 18:14 & 19.

no real case against the Lord, and so they were trying to make one up.”

- Jesus spoke openly in the temple and anyone could have come to listen to Him, even Annas and the council.

#### 18:25-27 – Peter's second and third denial

- Peter denies Jesus the second and third times, even taking an oath saying that he didn't know Jesus.
- rooster crowed<sup>9</sup> – four watches in the night: 1<sup>st</sup>, evening (6-9 pm), 2<sup>nd</sup>, midnight (9 pm – 12 am), 3<sup>rd</sup>, cock crowing (12-3 am), and 4<sup>th</sup>, morning (3-6 am). A trumpet was blown known as the “cockcrow” between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> watches, however a rooster is specifically identified here and in the other gospels.
- **Wiersbe**<sup>10</sup> – “The crowing of the cock was assurance to Peter that Jesus was totally in control of the situation, even though He was bound and being harassed by the authorities. By controlling one bird, Jesus affirmed His sovereignty.” (Gen 1:26; Mat 17:24-27; 21:1-11; Luk 5:1-11)
- Jesus prayed that Peter would not lose his faith but would be restored and go on to lead the rest – Luk 22:32.
- **Wiersbe**<sup>11</sup> – “Keep in mind that the crowing of the cock was the announcement of the dawning of a new day!” **Psa 30:5b** ...Weeping may last for the night, But a shout of joy *comes* in the morning.

#### 18:28-32 – Pilate questions the Jewish leaders

- Civil Trial begins
- **Believer's Bible Commentary & Bible Knowledge Commentary**<sup>12</sup> – **BBC**: “The Jews did not want to go into the palace of a Gentile. They felt that they would have been **defiled** and would thus be prevented from eating **the Passover**. It did not seem to bother them that they were plotting the death of the Son of God. It would have been a tragedy for them to enter a Gentile house, but murder was a mere trifle.” **BKC**: “It is ironic that the Jewish leaders were concerned with ritual **uncleanness** while they planned murder!”

#### 18:33-38a – Pilate questions Jesus

- “What have you done?” – Jesus wasn't a prisoner of Pilate but was turned over by His own people
- If He was establishing an earthly kingdom, there would be a revolt.
- v37: Born = Humanity; Came Into The World = Deity
  - Pre-existence: 1:9-10; 3:17, 19; 9:39; 10:36; 12:46; 16:28; 17:18
- Truth: Purpose for coming – John 1:14, 17
- “What is truth?” – Many people ask this still today.

#### 18:38b-40 – Pilate seeks to release Jesus

- Pilate was wanting to find an easy solution. So offered to release Jesus as

was his custom at the Passover. The Jewish leaders wouldn't have it and chose Barabbas, a robber, instead.

- Jesus is not guilty – 18:38b; 19:4, 6; Luk 23:14, 19; Mat 27:24 – washed hands of His blood

## Chapter 19

### 19:1-7 – Jesus is scourged and mocked

- Pilate said Jesus wasn't guilty but to satisfy the Jewish leaders he let Jesus be cruelly mistreated.
- Jews limit of 40 stripes is from Deu 25:2-3; the Romans didn't have that limit.
- Crown of thorns → thorns and thistles came from sin, Gen 3:17-19
- **Wiersbe**<sup>13</sup> – “If any crowd should have been moved by pity, it was the Jewish crowd that waited on Pilate. What nation has suffered more than the Jews? Here was one of their own, a Jewish prophet, suffering unjustly at the hands of the Romans, and the Jews did not repent or even show any touch of pity! If sinners who actually saw Christ in His suffering did not repent, what hope is there for people twenty centuries later who only read about His agonies?”

### 19:8-12 – Pilate becomes fearful of who Jesus is

- Jesus refused to answer because of Pilate's answer in 18:34-35
- Jesus points out that Pilate has authority because it was granted him from above.
- The Jewish leaders warned that Pilate would be an enemy of Caesar.

### 19:13-16 – The People demanded Jesus be crucified

- “We have no king but Caesar.” – Most Jewish prayers begin with the phrase, “Blessed are You, LORD our God, King of the universe...”
- Israel rejected God the Father when they asked for a king; the chief priests rejected Jesus the Son of God when they declared Caesar their king; Most Jews today are rejecting the pleading of the Holy Spirit. One day they will declare Jesus their King.<sup>14</sup>

### 19:17-22 – The crucifixion

- “Jesus the Nazarene, The King of the Jews”

Hebrew = religion	ישו מנצרת. מלך היהודים
Latin = law	Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum
Greek = philosophy	Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος, ὁ βασιλιάς τῶν Εβραίων

### 19:23-25a – Soldiers divide Jesus clothing

- Psa 22:18

### 19:25b-27 – Disciples at the cross

- Jesus made sure that His mother was taken care of by John.
- James & John, the sons of Zebedee, might have been cousins through

<sup>9</sup> (Wiersbe 376; Hunt) on John 18:27.

<sup>10</sup> (Wiersbe 376) on John 18:27.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> (MacDonald and Farstad) on John 18:28.

<sup>13</sup> (Wiersbe 380) on John 19:6.

<sup>14</sup> (Wiersbe 381) on John 19:15.