



## *Lesson 24: John 18:1-40*

<sup>2</sup> Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns, and weapons. <sup>4</sup> Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"

Q2. Verse 4: did Jesus know all throughout His life what would happen to Him?

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Q3. Is it important that Jesus knows of all the pain and humiliation that He will experience?

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Q4. Where was Judas? Why do you think Jesus took the initiative and asked, "Who is it you want?"

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<sup>5</sup> "Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. <sup>6</sup> "I am he," Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Q5. Why did the mob fall to the ground?


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## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

### Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>7</sup> Again he asked them, "Who is it you want?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

<sup>8</sup> "I told you that I am he," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for me, then let these men go."

<sup>9</sup> This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."

<sup>10</sup> Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

<sup>11</sup> Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"

Q6. What did Jesus mean when He said, "shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me"?

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#### **Matthew 26:51-54** [NIV-1984]

<sup>51</sup> Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus, and arrested him. With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out, and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

<sup>52</sup> "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

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### Luke 22:47-53 [NIV-1984]

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them.


He approached Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup> but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

<sup>49</sup> When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" <sup>50</sup> And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

<sup>51</sup> But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup> Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour -- when darkness reigns."


Q7. How would you explain the differences between the accounts of the eye-witnesses and Luke (the companion, historian, and doctor)? (John 18:7-11 ↑; Matthew 26:51-54 ↑; and Luke 22:47-53 ↑: for example, the mob fell down; Judas said nothing and did nothing; in the other accounts Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss; Peter severs an ear, but not every account tells of the servant's miraculous healing; etc.)

<u>John 18:7-11</u>	<u>Matthew 26:51-54</u>	<u>Luke 22:47-53</u>


 The Apostle John was known by the staff members (servants) of the High Priest (see John 18:15-16 ↓). Therefore, we can assume that he alone of the Gospel writers knew the name of the high priest's servant, Malchus. The Apostle John did not want to fill his Gospel with words like "I", "me", and "my". He did not identify himself, because he wanted the focus of this Gospel account to center exclusively on the Savior.

## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

### Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *Jesus Faces Annas and Caiaphas*

 Note: They took Jesus first to Annas, probably the most respected and powerful of the Jewish authorities at that time. He had held the office of high priest earlier (A.D. 6-15), and his influence continued through his son-in-law Caiaphas, the current high priest (v. 13) and through his five sons, who had also been high priest for various lengths of time (Josephus Antiquities of the Jews 18.2.1-2; 20.9.1; cf. Chilton 1992:257). Annas was the head of a dynasty, which probably accounts for John's reference to him as high priest (vv. 15-16, 19, 22, cf. Acts 4:6), even though John is clear that Caiaphas is the one holding that office at the time (vv. 13, 24). [Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/IVP-NT/John/Jesus-Confronted-Annas-Peter>]

<sup>12</sup> Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him <sup>13</sup> and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

<sup>14</sup> Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people.

#### **John 11:49-50** [NIV-1984]

<sup>49</sup> Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, "You know nothing at all! <sup>50</sup> You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish."

## *Lesson 24: John 18:1-40*

### *Peter Denies Jesus*

<sup>15</sup> Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard,

Q8. Who is the “[other] disciple, who was “known to the high priest”?

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<sup>16</sup> but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in.

Q9. Why did Peter remain outside?

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<sup>17</sup> "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" the girl at the door asked Peter.

He replied, "I am not."

Q10. A few hours earlier in the upper room, Peter said that he would die for the Lord Jesus. Why did he change his mind, and to the servant girl deny that he was a disciple of Jesus?


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<sup>18</sup> It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

### Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *The High Priest Questions Jesus*

<sup>19</sup> Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

<sup>20</sup> "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup> Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."

Q11. What was the motive of the high priest in asking Jesus these questions about His disciples and His teaching?

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#### **Deuteronomy 17:6-7** [NIV-1984]

<sup>6</sup> On the testimony of two or three witnesses a man shall be put to death, but no one shall be put to death on the testimony of only one witness. <sup>7</sup> The hands of the witnesses must be the first in putting him to death, and then the hands of all the people. You must purge the evil from among you.

#### **Deuteronomy 19:15-19** [NIV-1984]

<sup>15</sup> One witness is not enough to convict a man accused of any crime or offense he may have committed. A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.

<sup>16</sup> If a malicious witness takes the stand to accuse a man of a crime, <sup>17</sup> the two men involved in the dispute must stand in the presence of the Lord before the priests and the judges who are in office at the time. <sup>18</sup> The judges must make a thorough investigation, and if the witness proves to be a liar, giving false testimony against his brother, <sup>19</sup> then do to him as he intended to do to his brother. You must purge the evil from among you.

Q12. Do you think the religious leaders had difficulty finding witnesses who could testify to the same incident?

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**Lesson 24: John 18:1-40**

<sup>22</sup> When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded.

Q13. Why do you think the officer struck Jesus?

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<sup>23</sup> "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?"

Q14. Do you think Jesus received an answer?

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<sup>24</sup> Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

Q15. Do you think Annas and his followers received any kind of satisfaction from their questioning of Jesus? Was their questioning successful?


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## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

### Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *Peter Denies Jesus Again*

#### **Matthew 26:31-35**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' <sup>32</sup> But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>33</sup> Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

<sup>34</sup> "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

<sup>35</sup> But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

<sup>25</sup> As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?"

He denied it, saying, "I am not."

<sup>26</sup> One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the olive grove?"

<sup>27</sup> Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

#### **Matthew 26:73-75**

<sup>73</sup> After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away."

<sup>74</sup> Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"

<sup>75</sup> Immediately a rooster crowed. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.



*Peter denies Jesus.*

Source: [https://www.bibleencyclopedia.com/picturesjpeg/Peter\\_Denies\\_Christ\\_1012-Aug.jpg](https://www.bibleencyclopedia.com/picturesjpeg/Peter_Denies_Christ_1012-Aug.jpg)

## *Lesson 24: John 18:1-40*

### *Jesus Before Pilate*

<sup>28</sup> Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover.

Q16. Why would entering the governor's headquarters defile the Jewish leaders?

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<sup>29</sup> So Pilate came out to them and asked, "What charges are you bringing against this man?"

<sup>30</sup> "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you."

Q17. What are the Jewish religious leaders implying from their quote in verse 30?

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<sup>31</sup> Pilate said, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law."

<sup>32</sup> "But we have no right to execute anyone," the Jews objected. This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled.

## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

### Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *My Kingdom Is Not of This World*

<sup>33</sup> Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

<sup>34</sup> "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

Q18. What was the reason for Jesus asking if Pilate's question was said "your own idea"?

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<sup>35</sup> "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

Q19. Why do you think Pilate answered "Am I a Jew"?

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Q20. Was it significant to Pilate that Jesus was condemned by "your people and your chief priests"?

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## Lesson 24: John 18:1-40

<sup>36</sup> Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."

Q21. How would you explain Jesus statement that "my kingdom is from another place"?

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<sup>37</sup> "You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.

Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

<sup>38a</sup> "What is truth?" Pilate asked.

Q22. If you were witnessing to Pilate, how would you have answered his question, "What is truth"??

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<sup>38b</sup> With this he went out again to the Jews and said, "I find no basis for a charge against him. <sup>39</sup> But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'?"

<sup>40</sup> They shouted back, "No, not him! Give us Barabbas!"

Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.

Q23. By giving the crowd a choice between Jesus and Barabbas, what was Pilate hoping?

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