

John 18

The hour has come

I. Betrayal and Arrest: The Way He Suffered

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. 2 And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples.

- Jesus leaves the upper room...**and it is night...**
 1. Jesus prays for Himself...
 2. As Jesus prays for the boys
 3. Jesus prays for us...

**...as the 12th Apostle is in the midst of committing the greatest crime in History
Betraying of Son of God to death on a Cross**

- **Jesus and 11:** Go to a Garden they all have gone to many times
- Judas would know they were there...

Jesus is not hiding. Jesus is waiting.

- **Cross the Brook Kidron:**
 1. David crossed fleeing from son Absalom
 2. Later a place pagan idols were dumped
 3. Lit. "turbid" cloudy, opaque, or thick with suspended matter.

Things are going to get cloudy, opaque, thick and confusing for the boys tonight

- **NOTE:** John does not mention Jesus praying in Garden
- **Gethsemane:** Lit. "Olive Press" where Jesus would sweat blood for us

At this point Jesus is finished praying and is waiting to get this done...

3 Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

- Secular Soldiers/Religious Soldiers
- Lanterns/Torches/Weapons

What's wrong with this picture?

More innocent than a child yet set upon as mass murderer

4 Jesus therefore, knowing **all things that would come upon Him,** went forward...

Counting the cost, knowing it was time...He went forward!

- **Plan set before Creation to save us...**our road to the Father begins to be paved...
 1. Taken/Beaten
 2. Humiliated/Beard plucked out
 3. Scourged/Nailed to piece of wood
 4. Mocked while in agony/Thirsty/Bones out of joint
 5. Father turning away. Death.
- **Application?** Counting cost of following Jesus/knowing the risk, we also go forward...
- **Risk analysis results?** 100% possibility there will be suffering along with joy...

1 Peter 4:13 ...but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings [cf. Col 1:24]

In the history of the Christian Church, the tendency has been to *avoid being identified with the sufferings of Jesus Christ*. People have sought to carry out God's orders through a shortcut of their own. God's way is always the way of suffering- the way of the "long road home." [Oswald Chambers]

Body of Christ will continue to both suffer and thrive till we meet the Lord

Luke 14:26 [Jesus to multitude following Him] [Read] "If anyone comes to Me and does not **hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters**, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— 29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'? 31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

John 6:66 [After Jesus speaks hard words...] many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, **"Do you also want to go away?"**

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life"
There is no one else to follow...no other way that works

2 Timothy 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

- **Suffering Well:** Proof of our faith. Our "Buy in". Flesh in the game.
- **End game:** Eternal Life and no more suffering. Now...

**We are called to be tough. Be Strong and courageous...
Knowing all things that would come upon Him He went forward...
Jesus told us what is surely coming in Ch.'s 15-16**

1. Humiliated
2. Mocked
3. Thirsty

4. World will hate us we already know this; i.e. **look at it this way...**

Matthew 5:11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

- Suffering will happen so Be ready and when it happens
- Don't re-act but act as the Holy Spirit leads

We don't take short cuts [belting someone] but instead trust a Big God to fight our battles...

Romans 12:17 [Read] Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The **way we suffer** is a witness to our enemies that we have a Big God. God is with us.
We need to be prepared to suffer well for the sake of a hell-bound world

1 Peter 3:14b..."And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your **good conduct in Christ may be ashamed.**

When Jesus suffered He said "Forgive them Father for they know not what they do"
When the soldier saw the way Jesus suffered/died He knew Jesus was no mere man

Mark 15:39 So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, "**Truly this Man was the Son of God!**"

- We are supposed to be more than mere men/woman reacting as rest of the world

**1 Corinthians 3:3 ... are you not carnal [fleshly] and behaving like mere men?
By God's Spirit we are supermen and superwoman...**

- **Self-pity** is the Kryptonite that rip to shreds spiritual supermen/women

**Time to grow up and deal with what is not what we hope it would be, i.e....
We will suffer if we desire to live for God**

- **Why is there suffering?**

1. Because we live in a sinful world
2. Because it the only thing that gets our attention
3. Because it draws us out from self and toward God
4. Because joy is intensified when we suffer well
5. Because we're never closer to Jesus and each other than through our common experience of suffering...and suffering well

Knowing all things that would come upon Him He went forward...for God's Glory

- Judas, Secular and Religious soldiers, and Religious leaders arrive...

Jesus moves toward His enemies...He is now, always has been, in complete control

4b...and [Jesus] said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" 5 They answered Him, "**Jesus of Nazareth.**" Jesus said to them, "**I am He.**" And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. 6 Now when He said to them, "**I am He,**" they drew back and fell to the ground.

I AM HE ["HE" italics]

- **Moses:** What shall I tell them is Your Name: "**Tell them I AM that IAM**" sent you
- Everyone including Judas falls backward to the ground

7 Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?"

- **Jesus standing/Enemies now sitting**

7b...And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." 8 Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, **let these go their way,**" 9 that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none."

- Take Me...Let them go
- **Peter can't take a hint...**

10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

- Peter may be a skilled fisherman but a gladiator he is not
- **Cut off the ear of High Priest servant...**

Luke 22:51 [Jesus] ... touched his ear and healed him.

- Stop making more work for Me...

11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

Peter...Don't get in the way the only means of your Salvation...the Cross

1 Corinthians 1:18 ...the message of the **cross is foolishness** to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the **power of God.**

- **Peter:** You don't have to go to the Cross

Mark 8:32 Then Peter took [Jesus] aside and began to rebuke Him. 33 But when [Jesus] had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "**Get behind Me, Satan!** For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

- **The Devil:** You don't have to go the cross

Luke 4:8 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

Knowing all things that would come upon Him He went forward...for His bride

12 Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews **arrested Jesus and bound Him**. 13 And they led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. 14 Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

- **Caiaphas the High Priest**
 1. Very Bad Guy looked like a very good guy
 2. Lord recognized his office **as High Priest in John 11**
 3. Prophesied "one man should die for the people" not knowing what that mean
- **Annas/Caiaphas:** Both priests; both waiting for Messiah, both leading a cry to crucify

Meekness

- Jesus arrested and bound yet not saying a word; not fighting back

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

- **Jesus was Meek not weak.** Jesus was both meek and commanding/authoritative

Meekness: Power under control

Real strength is the backbone of meekness. [Spurgeon]

- Jesus meekness began in Bethlehem and culminated at the cross of Calvary

We are all of us remarkably good-tempered while we have our own way; but the true meekness, which is a work of grace, will stand the fire of persecution, and will endure the test of enmity, cruelty, and wrong, even as the meekness of Christ did upon the cross of Calvary. [Calvary]

I have all the power and authority to smoke you...but I choose not to
"I could call a legion of Angel here in a second if I chose...but I want your soul"

Q. What about when the rat patrol came to arrest Him and fell backward?

A. When Jesus proclaims "**I AM**" to His enemies the supernatural *will supersede* the natural

- **Meekness:** Supernatural Attribute of Jesus. Strength under control/restraint for benefit of others...related to mercy; i.e. not giving our afflictors what they deserve [here...even though we can]
- Meek: NT Mildness, Gentleness of Spirit

- **Meek:** OT def gives us key...
 1. *ä·näv* Poor, humble afflicted
 2. *ä·nä'* From root to be occupied with
 3. *ä·nä'* From root answer/respond

Preoccupied with a gentle response to situations/people that bring suffering
What Jesus exemplified and what we are called to be...

- **Meekness**, not vengeance, brings personal peace...

Psalm 37:11 ...the **meek shall inherit the earth**, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

- Meekness is closely tied to righteousness/peace...Millennium will be a time for meek

Isaiah 11:4 But with righteousness [God] shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the **meek of the earth**; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. [Our enemies will not go unpunished]

- Meekness and humility...Supernatural attributes available to believers

Zephaniah 2:3 Seek the Lord, **all you meek of the earth**, Who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility.

Zephaniah 3:12 I will leave in your midst **A meek and humble people**, And they shall trust in the name of the Lord.

- Meekness and gentleness display Christ likeness to world

2 Corinthians 10:1 [Paul speaks to church with] ...**meekness and gentleness of Christ**

- Meekness is part of the option package of being born again...

Colossians 3:12 [Character of the New Man] Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, **humility, meekness**, longsuffering...

- **Meekness:** How we are receive God's Word; i.e. forsaking our truth for truth of God

James 1:21 [Be doers of the Word] ... lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive with meekness** the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

- Meekness reveals wisdom as Arrogance reveals foolishness

James 3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the **meekness of wisdom**.

- **Def.** Meekness is to be preoccupied with a gentle response to worlds hostility...

1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with **meekness and fear**

- **Jesus response to suffering? Meekness, i.e. strength under total control**

Two Responses suffering: That problem, person, situation that just harshed your mellow...

1. **Suffer Badly** [Incorrectly]: Get angry/bitter because things aren't going as you planned/hoped. Back away, procrastinate and begin to drown in self-pity [Kryptonite that takes spiritual supermen/woman out of the game], take short cuts, try to avoid suffering at any cost and have to do it over again because we didn't learn the lesson from the ultimate Teacher the first time ...or
2. **Suffer Well:** Deal with **what is**, not what you hoped it would be, trust in a Big God who allowed this thorn in your life for your good/growth to conform you into the image of His Son as you relate to His suffering. Put your head down and run forward hitting the beast head-on as you trust in God who goes before you, allowing Him to fight by giving room for His wrath and justice to be accomplished in those situations/people who are causing you the pain. Know that there is purpose in the pain...purpose that will be accomplished and joy that will be overflowing **IF we suffer well.**

- **Meekness:** Preoccupied with a gentle response to situations/people that are causing suffering

**Knowing all things that were about to come upon Him...Jesus went forward
For the Joy that was set before Him He endured the Cross**

II. Peter Denies Jesus: What Happened to Peter?

15 And Simon **Peter followed Jesus**, and so did another disciple

- John follow Jesus and from Gethsemane

Matthew 26:58 But Peter followed Him at a distance...

Application: Following Jesus at a distance will not work

- Peter wanted a second chance after the ear incident to show loyalty
- John unwittingly **leads Peter into temptation...**

15b... Now that disciple [John] was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. 16 But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, **and brought Peter in.**

- **Location:** Home of Annas the Co-High Priest with Caiaphas
- John known to High Priest Annas [Sabbath School teacher?]

1. John follows Jesus into the courtyard
2. John asks servant girl to go back and let Peter in...

17 Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, "You are not **also** one of this Man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."

- You're **not also** a disciple of Jesus?
 1. John risked his life admitting to follow Jesus?

2. Peter not so much...

"You're not another one, are you?" **"I am not"**

- **Earlier** I will die with you!
- **Later** Peter cut off the High Priests servant's ear for Jesus
- **Now** Denied following Jesus...cowering to servant girl? I wouldn't do that...

1 Corinthians 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands [in his own strength] take heed lest he fall.

- **Brawny Peter's 1st Denial:** Intimidated by worldly little servant girl

Application: Denying Jesus comes easier as we follow at a distance

- Some are swallowed up by the world...

Colossians 4:14 [Paul's friend Demas] Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

2 Timothy 4:10 ...for Demas has forsaken me, **having loved this present world**

- Moment of truth...Love Jesus or cave to world. "Are you one of His disciples?"

Mark 14: 68 [Parallel] ...[Peter] denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are saying." And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed. [Mocking rooster]

- Peter in the courtyard of Annas the High Priest

18 Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and **warmed himself.**

When things get tough following Jesus...the world offers Comfort/Warmth

Isaiah 50:11 Look, all you who kindle a fire, Who encircle yourselves with sparks: Walk in the light of your fire and in the sparks you have kindled [your own ways of coping]— This you shall have from My hand: **You shall lie down in torment.**

- World's comfort/warmth always leads to getting burned

Proverbs 6:27 Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?

Application: Following Jesus at a distance digresses quickly into compromise
Compromise promises comfort but ultimately leads to misery and torment

- **Compromise:** On the fence. Not fit for Heaven or Hell...miserable
 1. Stop witnessing, serving, caring about others. Self-absorbed...but warm
 2. Start sitting with enemies of God: Absolute truth becomes up for grabs
 3. Find temporary comfort in things that kill you:
 - i. **Alcohol/Drugs** leaving you hungover, burnt-out, good for nothing
 - ii. **Sexual sin** leaving you ashamed, abandoned, empty, used

- iii. **Greed**; i.e. Idolatry leaving us cold, not warm as promised
- iv. **Anger** leaving you friendless, looking foolish, never satisfied/content

1. **Study**: Scream and let the anger out
2. **Result**: More anger. Feeds off self

- Compromise leads to callousness [until Jesus looks at you]

While his Lord and Master was being maltreated and abused over yonder at the end of the hall, Peter was warming himself at the servant's fire. Ah! he was getting cold spiritually while warming himself physically; and it sometimes happens that, when men are warming their bodies, they are at the same time cooling their hearts. I have known a man warm himself at a very big fire through coming into possession of a large amount of property, but he has also grown very cold spiritually for these coals of fire do not warm the heart. [Spurgeon]

- Life lands us at forks in road/valleys of decision/ choices to please God of world

Psalm 1:1 [Read] Blessed is the man Who **walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;** 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And **whatever he does shall prosper.** 4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

- **V 1** Downward spiral leading to complete compromise and destruction
 1. Walking with ungodly
 2. Standing [stopping] in the path of sinners
 3. Sitting in the seat of scornful; i.e. enemies of God
- **Compromise**; i.e. Fear of man...turns men into mice...sounds cheesy? Does Peter look more like a man or a mouse at this point? Peter just wanted to "blend in with crowd" [Guzik]

He that [does not want to] fall into a ditch should take care not to walk near the edge of it; so, if Peter wanted to stand fast, he should not have gone where he would be sure to be tempted. [Spurgeon]

- Peter warms himself at the fire of God's enemies...
- In stark contrast Jesus responds like a True Man.

19 The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine.

- **Interrogation**: Two questions motivated by jealousy meant to incriminate
 1. Who are your friends?
 2. What is your teaching?

- **NOTE:** Annas means “mercy”

20 Jesus answered him, “I spoke **openly** to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews **always meet**, and in secret I have said nothing. 21 Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed **they know what I said.**”

- Jesus responds to **question of doctrine**; i.e. what He taught
 1. I spoke openly
 2. I spoke freely

“Truth is bold and barefaced; when heresy hides itself, and loathes the light.” [Trapp]

- **SDA:** Can’t find name on any mail outs. **JW** say they are Christians; etc.

I will not defend Myself. I will not talk about My boys. Ask someone else.

Proverbs 27:2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips.

2 Corinthians 10:18 For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.

- Ask others about Me. Look for someone who can accuse Me...

22 And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus **with the palm of his hand**, saying, “Do You answer the high priest like that?” 23 Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, **why do you strike Me?**”

- **Struck Jesus with palm:** First Blow culminating in crucifixion

If I said something evil/untrue what was it as per law? Struck with palm of hand

- Beginning of much physical pain prophesied 700 years earlier

Isaiah 50: 5 The Lord God has opened My ear; And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn away. 6 I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

- Jesus Words here and every time He spoke were not sin...

Hebrews 4:15 [Jesus] was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

1 Peter 2:22 “[Jesus] committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; 23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously

- Struck by officer of Annas...as Peter listened

24 Then Annas sent Him **bound to Caiaphas** the high priest.

- Illegal Trial 1 over now illegal trial 2 begins...

Peter watches as His Lord walks by bound/bleeding as he denies Jesus 2 more x

25 Now Simon Peter stood and **warmed himself**. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, **"I am not!"**

- **Peter's 2nd Denial**
- Same servant girl making trouble: Mark 14 amazing spirit of intimidation...

"A silly wench daunted and dispirited this stout champion." [Trapp]

- **Still warming himself** 2x as v. 18

26 One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, **"Did I not see you in the garden with Him?"** 27 Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed.

- **Peter's 3rd and last denial:** Rooster crows 2nd time

Yo, you're the guy who cut off my cousins' ear in the garden! ...No, I'm not

Mark 14:71 [Parallel] [Peter] began to **curse and swear**, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!" 72 A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times."

- Jesus waling by looks at Peter as He is being denied...

Luke 22:60 [Parallel] [Peter replied...] Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 **And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. ...62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly.**

We know that the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. He did not speak a word, perhaps lest Peter should fall into the hands of those who were round about him; but his look was sufficient to kindle in Peter the fires of repentance, and he went out to weep bitterly over his shameful denial of his Lord. [Spurgeon]

Promises of compromise are never kept...
Not so warm/not so comfy anymore

- **Denying Jesus before men...Heavy Sin.**

Matthew 10:32 "...whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. 33 But **whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**

Mark 8:38 ...whoever is **ashamed of Me** and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be **ashamed when He comes in the glory** of His Father with the holy angels."

2 Timothy 2:11 This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him. 12 If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. **If we deny Him, He also will deny**

us. 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Q. Why did Peter deny Jesus? | A. Fear of Man |
| Q. Why do we deny Jesus. | A. Fear of Man |
| Q. How do we deny Jesus? | A. Not being who we are in Christ |

Putting on a mask. Shutting down/shutting up. Playing the hypocrite. **Living a lie**

Colossians 3:8 [Read] [As a new creation...] put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 **Do not lie to one another**, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the **new man** [true man] who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him...

- **Do not lie to one another:** Not *do not speak lies* but *do not live a lie*
- **Peter true identity was to be courageous**

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

"Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net."

"See, we have left all and followed You."

"Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake."

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Fear of Man is a tremendous negative motivator

1. Fear of temporal physical pain [Peter]
 2. Fear of temporal emotional pain
 3. Fear of temporal retribution
 4. Fear of temporal ridicule
 5. Fear of temporal rejection
- **Peter denied Jesus in both word and deed**
 - **Ways we deny Jesus:**
 1. Not doing what we always would do when around other fellow believers
 2. Doing what we normally don't do for thumbs-up from hell-bound world. Curse
 - Not praying in front of people
 - Not reading in front of people
 - Not speaking to people...taking path of least resistance

If the Fear of man is a powerful negative motivator...

How about the Fear of God? Should be an even more persuasive positive motivator

Luke 12:4 "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!"

- **He is on our side. The world we are trying to please is not...**

[Cont.] 6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is

forgotten before God. 7 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Key to the getting over Fear of Man? Fear the God who loves you and be blessed

Psalm 119:46 I will speak of Your testimonies also before kings, And will not be ashamed.

Romans 1:15 So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. 16 For **I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

- Real Judas wanted to betray the Lord/The real Peter wanted to be faithful to the Lord

What happened to Peter Peter opened door of the devil with the key of pride

"Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!"

"Even if all are made to stumble, yet I will not be."

- Self-sufficiency led to Satan asking for him/Jesus agreeing

Luke 22:31 ... "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. 32 But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." 33 But he said to Him, "**Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.**"

- Peter failed at his strongest point because he acted in the flesh
- Ended up jellyfish fearing man more than God

We have the same choice as Peter: Fear Man or Fear God

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom

- If/because Fear of God is beginning of Wisdom then...
- Fear of Man is the epitome of foolishness

If pleasing God is what motivates our thoughts and actions we will respond wisely.

If pleasing man is our motivation, we will respond foolishly

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Peter: Not the man he thought he was, yet became man God created him to be!

- Feed my sheep would be a challenge Peter would embrace

After being filled with God's Spirit

Fearing man was be the last thing Peter would ever be accused of...

Acts 2:40 [Post-Pentecost Peter Preaching] "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

- Same religious leader he cowered to see a new man. True man...

Acts 5:28 "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "**We ought to obey God rather than men.** 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree.

John 21:17 [Read] [Jesus forgives/restores/commissions Peter] Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. 18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." 19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

- Jesus warned Peter that if he did what Jesus asked of Him he would die for it
- Peter crucified upside down saying unworthy to die as Jesus.

...knowing all things that would come upon him, Peter went forward

Fill in gaps between Peters Denial and delivery to Pilate

Mark 14:54 [Read] Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. 56 For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. 57 Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, 58 "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" 59 But not even then did their testimony agree. 60 And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "**Do You answer nothing?** What is it these men testify against You?" 61 But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "**Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**" 62 **Jesus said...**

"I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power ...and coming with the clouds of heaven."

[cont.] 63 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? 64 You have heard the **blasphemy!** What do you think?" And they all **condemned Him to be deserving of death.** 65 Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, "**Prophecy!**" And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

- Q. What made the High Priest so mad/Why did he call what Jesus said blasphemy?

**Jesus claim the He was the Messiah they were waiting for!
I AM the Christ**

- Then Jesus ramps it up...

1. I will be sitting at the right hand of God
2. I will be coming in the Power of God
3. You will see me when I come on the Clouds to Judge the Earth

Daniel 7:13 [Read] [Daniel's Vision 600 BC] "I was watching in the night visions, and behold, **One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds** of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

- You will see? Your people the Jews will see in the future...

Revelation 1:7 Behold, He is coming with (A)clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

- Last Straw: "I AM the Messiah"

III. In Pilate's Court

28 Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was **early morning**.

- **Long night:** Ch's 13 to 18
 1. Last Supper with boys
 2. Communion: Body and Blood for us
 3. Prayer for Self, Apostles, Us
 4. Garden Prayer: Drops blood
 5. Betrayal, Arrest, Beaten, 2 Trials, and Denied by a friend 3X

They were very eager to prove their enmity to Christ; they had spent the night, and the earliest moments of the dawn, in examining their illustrious prisoner, condemning him, and abusing him, and now they were off to Pilate. [Spurgeon]

- **Now early morning:** Jesus led to Praetorium; Roman Governor's Headquarters

28b... But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but **that they might eat the Passover**.

- Led Son of God to door of Pagan court to be falsely accused sentenced to death
- Stayed outside not to be defiled for Passover: Feast that **spoke of this very day**

Passover: If they only knew Who they were dealing with
The One who held their Eternal Destiny in His hand

- Egypt/Pharaoh [World/Devil] refused to let God's people go after **9 plagues**
- **10th Plague:** Death of firstborn of Egypt

Exodus 11:4 [Read] "Thus says the Lord: 'About midnight **I will go out** into the midst of Egypt 5 and all the **firstborn** in the land of Egypt shall die...

- **God:** At midnight I will execute judgment Myself
- That day Passover Instituted and a way of escape provided...blood

Exodus 12:21 [Read] Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb. 22 And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. 23 For **the Lord will pass through** to strike the Egyptians; and **when He sees the blood** on the lintel and on the two doorposts, **the Lord will pass over** the door and **not allow the destroyer** to come into your houses to strike you...29 And it came to pass at midnight that..."

...the Lord struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt

- The Destroyer in Egypt 1500 BC and will be the Destroyer of the end time

Revelation 6:14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. 15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "**Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!** 17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

- **Jesus will be one of two things to every person:**
 1. **Destroyer** to those who are not covered by His blood
 2. **Deliverer** of those who are covered by His blood

**Meaning of Passover:
God's judgment/wrath would Passover those covered by His blood**

- Jesus bought us back from sin and death **by His blood...**

1 Peter 1:18 ... you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you

- Blood of the Lamb taking away our sin

John 1:29 "Behold! The Lamb of God who **takes away the sin** of the world!"

- **OT Passover Lamb:** Consumed leaving nothing till morning
- **NT Lamb of God:** Completely consumed for our sin

Ephesians 5: 2 ...walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and **given Himself for us**, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

- Religious leaders blinded by Pride/Greed/Jealousy

1 Corinthians 2:8 ... for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

"We do not want to be defiled for Passover"

- Self-aggrandizing hypocritical pablum
- Killing the One who came to save them
- **Hebrews 10:** Punishment will be severe....
 1. Trample Son of God
 2. Counted His blood a common thing [unclean/defiled/unholy]
 3. Insulted Spirit of Grace
- As over 200,000 Lambs were being sacrificed in Jerusalem
- Jesus the Lamb of God; perfect sacrifice was being crucified on a hill

Religious Leaders Sin was great. It was a sin against Love; the Greatest Sin

29 Pilate then went out to [Jewish Leaders] and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"³⁰ They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." ³¹ Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "**It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death,**" ³² that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die.

Until Shiloh Comes

In the 49th chapter of the book of Genesis there is a ... specific prophecy regarding the time of the Messiah's coming...Jacob blesses his sons and prophesies concerning the Messiah:

"The scepter shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes

- **Scepter:** Right to rule including the right to impose Capital Punishment
- **Shiloh:** Messiah

Paraphrase: The Messiah will arrive before Judah loses ability to impose Capital Punishment

- Judah lost this right to execute prisoners to Rome at the start of first century

The power of the Sanhedrin was severely curtailed. Capital cases could no longer be tried by the Sanhedrin. Such cases were now shifted from the Jews to Rome

Josephus: "After the death of Festus...the high priest Ananias considered it a favorable opportunity to assemble the Sanhedrin. He therefore caused James the Brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, and several others, to appear before this hastily assembled council, and pronounced upon them the sentence of death by stoning. All the wise men and strict observers of the law who were at Jerusalem expressed their disapproval of this act...Some even went to [Roman officials] to bring this breach of the law [to his attention] and to inform him that they had acted illegally in assembling the Sanhedrin without the Roman authority."

The scepter had departed from Judah. Its royal and legal powers including Capital Punishment were removed; **but where was Shiloh?**

Rabbi Rachmon states: "When the members of the Sanhedrin found themselves deprived of their right over life and death, a general consternation took possession of them: they **covered their heads with ashes, and their bodies with sackcloth**, exclaiming:

**'Woe unto us for the scepter *has departed* from Judah and the Messiah has not come'
The Scripture is broken. Prophecy unfulfilled**

The scepter was taken from the hands of the tribe of Judah. But while the Jews wept in the streets of Jerusalem, there was growing up in the city of Nazareth the young son of a Jewish carpenter, Jesus of Nazareth. The inescapable conclusion was that Shiloh had come! **Only then was the Scepter removed!** [Chuck Missler, "The Creator Beyond Time and Space"]

- They missed it. They missed Him. They missed the Messiah. They missed Salvation. They missed forgiveness. They missed Eternal Life. Jesus wept for them...

Luke 19:41 Now as [Jesus] drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. 43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, 44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, **because you did not know the time of your visitation.**"

- Now is the time to fall down before Him. Tomorrow is not guaranteed.
- **Religious Leaders to Pilate:** We cannot put him to death, but you Romans can

...signifying by what death He would die; i.e. Roman crucifixion

33 Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, **called Jesus**, and said to Him, **"Are You the King of the Jews?"** 34 Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" 35 Pilate answered, **"Am I a Jew?** Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?"

- **Are You the King of the Jews?**
 1. Were you coerced into asking? Pilate the People-Pleaser
 2. Your own people delivered you to me

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God

- His own people delivered Him to be crucified

Are you the King of the Jews

36 Jesus answered, **"My kingdom is not of this world.** If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now **My kingdom is not from here.**"

1 Timothy 6:13 Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate

**I have not come to become a King. I already Am a King...an Eternal King
King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords**

37 Pilate therefore said to Him, **"Are You a king then?"** Jesus answered, **"You say rightly that I am a king.** For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

- Are You a King?

"Pilate had expected to meet a sullen or belligerent rebel and met instead the calm majesty of confident superiority. He could not reconcile the character of the prisoner with the charge brought against him." [Tenney]

- **For this cause I was born:** God coming as a baby born in manger

**To tell the World what is true. Those who love the Truth will hear My voice
Those who don't will be deceived**

2 Thessalonians 2:9 [AC will easily deceive unbelieving world...] because they did not receive the **love of the truth, that they might be saved.** 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie...

- Same now...reject the Truth and a deception will fill the void
- To love the Truth means to love Jesus and believe what He says...

1 Corinthians 16:22 If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come!

I have come to bear witness of Truth

38 Pilate said to Him, **"What is truth?"**

- As if this question dismisses all responsibility. *Idontknow*

Answer? Truth is What God says is True. Period.

- Give no time for Jesus to answer

38b...And when [Pilate] had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, **"I find no fault in Him at all.** 39 "But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

- **I find no fault with Him at all:** This was true

"I find in him no fault at all." That was the truth about the Truth, from the lips of a man who cared nothing about truth, yet who was compelled to bear this testimony, "I find in him no fault at all." [Spurgeon]

Hebrews 4:15 [Jesus] was in all points tempted as we are, **yet without sin.**

- **Jewish Custom:** Pardon one prisoner for Passover

- Why don't you let me let Him go...He is innocent
- **Matthew 27**
 1. **Pilate:** Knew Jews handed Jesus over *because of envy*
 2. **Pilates wife:** "Have nothing to do with that just Man" after dream
 3. **Jewish Leaders:** Wanted to destroy Jesus

Pilate: "Jesus or Barabbas?"

40 Then they all **cried again**, saying, **"Not this Man, but Barabbas!"** Now Barabbas was a robber.

Mark 15:7 [Read]...there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had **committed murder** in the rebellion **[Do you want me to release Barabbas?]** ...**11** But the chief priests stirred up the crowd **[Religion hates Jesus]**, so that he should rather release Barabbas to them. **12** Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" **13** So they cried out again, "Crucify Him!" **14** Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, "Crucify Him!" **15** So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified.

- **Barabbas:** Son of the father
 1. Barabbas deserved to be judged as we do
 2. Barabbas was guilty as we are
 3. Barabbas is shown mercy as we have been
 4. Jesus took Barabbas place as He has done for us...

Religion cannot save only condemn.

Only Jesus saves by and offers every person the Great exchange

God reconciled sinful man to Himself by making His sinless Son the sin bearer and dying in the sinner's place. Jesus Christ paid the death penalty for the sinner so that God could set the sinner free and declare him righteous in His holy presence. Moreover, He did more than just forgive us our sins; He imputed the perfect righteousness of His Son to us. A great exchange took place. Christ got all our sin and guilt; we got His perfect righteousness standing before God. His righteousness was exchanged for our sin. [abideinchrist.com]

2 Corinthians 5:21 [God] made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

The Great Exchange