



“TRUTH ON TRIAL!”

JOHN Chapter 18

Intro: Predictions of Christ Fulfilled:

- #1- Judas betrayal - John 13:26
- #2- Peter’s denial - John 13:38
- #3- Disciples would flee - John 16:32
- #4- Not one of his disciples would be lost – John 17:12
(Except the son of perdition.)
- #5- Death on the cross - John 3:14; 12:32,33
- #6- His resurrection – John 11:25

> THREE FACT FINDERS OF TRUTH:

~ **FACT FINDER #1 - THE DECLARATION OF TRUTH! (v1-11)**

~ **FACT FINDER #2 - THE DENIAL OF TRUTH! (v12-27)**

~ **FACT FINDER #3 - THE DECISION OF TRUTH! (v28-40)**

~ **FACT FINDER #1 - THE DECLARATION OF TRUTH! (v1-11)**

(v1) **Two “gardens”** – From *Eden* (DELIGHT) to *Gethsemane* (OIL PRESS)

(v2-3) **Three types of UNSAVED people:**

- (1) Judas - an apostate;
- (2) Pharisees - religiously unsaved;
- (3) Roman soldiers – worldly sinners.

(4-11) **Observe four ATTRIBUTES OF TRUTH in regard to Jesus:**

(1) (v4) Jesus **KNOWS ALL THINGS**; (Jesus is omniscient!)

(2) (v5-8) Jesus declares **“I AM”** (meaning He is God incarnate, spoken with divine power, *“they fell to the ground”*) fulfilling:

- Psalm 27:2 - *When the wicked came against me to eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, they stumbled and fell.*

-Psalm 29:4 - **The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

- **Philippians 2:5-11** - *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of*

those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(3) (v8-9) Jesus the “GOOD SHEPHERD” – John 10:11-16 - *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd."*

(4) (v10-11) Jesus the “Prince of Peace” and the divine HEALER.

~ FACT FINDER #2 - THE DENIAL OF TRUTH! (v12-27)

(v12-14) **ANNAS** (*grace of Jehovah*) - one of the high priests at Jerusalem, along with **CAIAPHAS**, when John the Baptist began his ministry, (Luke 3:2). Quirinius, governor of Syria, appointed Annas as high priest about A.D. 6 or 7. Although Annas was deposed by Valerius Gratus, the **PROCURATOR** of Judea, about A.D. 15, he was still the most influential of the priests and continued to carry the title of high priest (Luke 3:2; Acts 4:6). After his removal, Annas was officially succeeded by each of his five sons, one grandson, and his son-in-law **CAIAPHAS**. When word spread that Jesus raised **LAZARUS** from the dead, the Jewish leaders became alarmed at Jesus' increasing popularity. The **SANHEDRIN** quickly called a meeting, during which Caiaphas called for Jesus' death. As High Priest, Caiaphas' words carried great authority, and his counsel was followed (John 11:49-53). Subsequently, Caiaphas plotted the arrest of Jesus (Matthew 26:3-4) and was a participant in the illegal trial of Jesus (Matthew 26:57-68; John 18:13-14). (Both Annas and Caiaphas were among the principal examiners when Peter and John were arrested (Acts 4:6) in regard to the miraculous healing of the lame man *"at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful"* (Acts 3:2; 4:6).

(v15-27) Peter's three “DENIALS”:

#1 - **FEAR** paralyzes FAITH (v15-17);

#2 - Peter cowers to **PEER PRESSURE** instead of being filled with SPIRITUAL POWER (v18-25) (Why was Peter so weak? Answer: Matthew 26:36-46 - *Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*

Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."');

#3 - Peter SINNED to save his own skin, true SALVATION brings bold PROCLAMATION!
(v26-27)

~ FACT FINDER #3 - THE DECISION OF TRUTH! (v28-40)

(v28-36) Observe the sham trial with no truth to convict.

(v37-38) The question is not "What is Truth?" – but should be "Who is Truth?"
Jesus bore WITNESS TO THE TRUTH – His sinless life, His miracles, His teachings, His prophetic fulfillment, ultimately His resurrection!

- When you hear HIS VOICE, you will COME TO THE TRUTH and HIS TRUTH will:
(1) SET YOU FREE – John 8:31-32 - *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

(2) BRING HIS LIFE INTO YOURS – John 14:6 - *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."*

(3) FILL YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF TRUTH – John 16:13-15 - *However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.*