

Week Eighteen - Lesson Eighteen

John 18

*****Please note these questions are only meant as guidelines for deeper thought while reading this chapter. Obviously, we won't speak on much of them. Also note there is some scripture reference from the other three gospels.**

To pick up from Chapter 17... What "words" had Jesus "spoken"? From where did Jesus go "out" (John 18:1) with His disciples"? So, into which "garden" (John 18:1) did Jesus and His disciples enter after exiting Jerusalem and crossing over the Brook Kidron? (Mark 14:32, Luke 22:39)

which disciples stayed with Jesus as He prayed this time? Where were His disciples while He prayed this time? What did Jesus tell them to do? What did they end up doing? (Mark 14:32-40)

What does Jesus implore God the Father while being this agony? Why does Jesus seem to be backing out here? Why doesn't He just say, "Give me that cup"? If not the physical pain, then what was it? What was in the "cup"? Does Jesus have any experience tasting even one drop of this filth? (Mark 14:34-36, Luke 22:44, 2 Corinthians 5:21)

With whom has Jesus been in communion since forever? How will that be affected when He becomes sin? Why did Jesus drink the cup in the end if He found it so revolting? What was Jesus' 'final word' on what He wants from God the Father?

Is that your prayer when God tells you to do something that you dislike?

How much distress does it cause you when you think about being on your own apart from God?

Are you as revolted by your sins as Jesus was with the cup's content?

How did Judas Iscariot know to find Jesus at this time in the Garden of Gethsemane, which is at the base of the Mount of Olives? Whom did Judas Iscariot bring with him? Why had so many Roman soldiers come with them? (Luke 21:37)

How did the mob that included the Roman soldiers react when Jesus identified Himself as "Jesus of Nazareth"? What did Jesus then have to do?

Why did they draw back and fall to the ground and not believe Jesus the first time? And why had so many Roman soldiers come?

Did they see Jesus' disciples? So why had Jesus gone "forward" and identified Himself? What convinces the mob that it is Jesus?

Did Jesus know the meaning of Judas' kiss? Did Jesus' eleven disciples understand the meaning of Judas' kiss? How did His eleven then react? (Luke 22:48, Matthew 26:48-50, John 13:21-22)

If they are going to "strike with the sword" (Luke 22:49) who would you expect to be their first target? Is that what happened? Who did Peter strike with a sword, and what mortal blow did he inflict?

Who had the power to kill everyone who came but did not use it, and instead "permit" (Luke 22:51) Himself to be arrested? What did Jesus do after Peter struck out? (Matthew 26:52-54)

To whom was Jesus taken first? Who was Annas? Why would Jesus be taken first to the father-in-law of the high priest?

When did Caiaphas (the high priest) advise "the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people" (John 18:14)?

Did Annas hold a trial above? What is Annas interested in?

How does Jesus respond? How did "one of the officers" (John 18:22) of the temple guards hit Him? For what perceived reason? What is ironic about that?

So why did Peter stay and deny Jesus three times? How did Jesus look at Peter? Was Peter a coward? What was Peter doing in the high priest's house in the first place? Was Peter hoping to not be recognized? (Luke 22:59, Matthew 26:74)

Did Jesus need Peter's protection?

Does Jesus need our protection today?

What should Christians do when people attack and blaspheme Jesus?

What is happening to Jesus while Peter is denying Him? Since they had already decided to kill Jesus and now have Him in their custody, why are they bothering with testimonies and witnesses? Did Jesus help or hinder them in their efforts? Why would those words make it easy for them and bring about accusation of "blasphemy"? (Matthew 26:59-68, Daniel 7:13-14)

Why was the reason for Jesus' death sentence important? Whose testimony enabled their verdict? Who is in control of these developments?

Who is "Pilate" (John 18:29)? Why did he have to go "out to them" (John 18:29)? What is the Jews' initial response to Pilate's opening question? Why do they respond in such vague terms?

Why did Pilate ask them, "What accusation do you bring against this Man" (John 18:29)? What does the response of the Jews - "If he were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you" (John 18:30) - amount to? What is Pilate telling the Jews?

Why do the Jews respond, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death" (John 18:31)? How does their reply to Pilate fulfill what Jesus had said about "what death He would die" (John 18:32)?

What does Pilate mean by, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me" (John 18:35)? What does Pilate mean by "What have You done" (John 18:35)? What does Pilate already appear to have ruled out?

How does Jesus answer Pilate's question, "What have You done" (John 18:35)? By "My servants" (John 18:36), is Jesus referring to His disciples?

Why does Pilate again ask Jesus if He is a king? How does Jesus respond to Pilate this time? Where is the answer to Pilate's question "What is truth? (John 18:38)"

Why did Pilate suddenly go out again to the Jews and tell them, "I find no fault in Him at all" (John 18:38)? How did the Jews react to Pilate's declaration of Jesus' innocence?