

## Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

January 12, 2022

John 18: 7 - 27

7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth. 8 Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: 9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none. 10 Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. 11 Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it? 12 Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him, 13 And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year. 14 Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. 15 And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest. 16 But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. 17 Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not. 18 And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself. 19 The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. 20 Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. 21 Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said. 22 And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest so? 23 Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me? 24 Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest. 25 And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not. 26 One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him? 27 Peter then denied again: and immediately the cock crew.

This section now begins the trial of Jesus. Pastor Tom reflected on the movie "The Passion of Christ" directed by Mel Gibson. Reactions to this film include heart-breaking, tears, dramatic scenes, silence from the audiences leaving the theaters.

However, according to Jewish Law in the Talmud, the trial was a sham against the Law as the following list explains:

1. Arrests cannot be made at night.
2. No one involved in the arrest can be connected to the accused.  
(Judas was a disciple of Jesus for 3 years)
3. The trial could not begin at night.
4. After hearing witnesses, the rulers cannot act immediately.
5. There can never be a hand raising vote and the voting must begin with the youngest members so they are not influenced by the older members.

There are many other examples of the shakiness/sham of the trial of Jesus.

### **Verses 7, 8 & 9**

*Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth. 8. Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: 9. That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.*

\* This question is repeated from verse 4. And Jesus' answer in verse 8 reminds us of how the 'Good Shepherd' lays down His life for His flock. He was concerned for His disciples even though Jesus knew they would desert Him within hours.

\*We must remember that even in troubling times as these, we know we are Jesus' #1 concern!

\*Verse 9 is an answer/ fulfillment of Jesus' prayer in John 17:12.

## **Verse 10**

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

\*Peter cuts off the ear of a servant and in Luke's account in Luke 22:50 -51 Jesus puts the ear back on, healing the injury completely. Can we even imagine what this Malchus is thinking at that moment? When Jesus heals someone they are surely healed. It is a huge expression of love for His creatures! Holy power is needed so the ear can be perfectly reattached. We can get a glimpse of this power of God in many testimonies right here at Mt. Olive Church. Pastor Tom recalled Sherri's story about the tumor on her bile duct. We've all had 'God Moments'.

## **Verse 11**

*Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?*

\*This is a similar question Jesus asked in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane just hours before this event. "Not my will but thine..."

## **Verse 12, 13 and 14**

*Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him, 13. And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year. 14. Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.*

\* Annas was the first official that saw Jesus after His arrest. But Caiaphas was the high priest, who should have seen Jesus first. Interestingly, Annas was Caiaphas' father-in-law. Caiaphas was a puppet leader who only did what was advised by his father-in-law. This practice goes on in politics and sadly, in churches as well. In verse 14, Caiaphas prophetically says that one man has to die for all the people; which is what Jesus came to do in the first place.

## Verse 15

*And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest.*

\*Someone once said the secret to following Jesus is to just keep following Him. Peter did that at this point, even when all the others (but one) ran off. Even if we make mistakes like Peter did rather often in Scriptures, we must keep following our Lord.

\*The other one who did not run could have been John because he would not have mentioned his name in his Gospel account. But we have to think deeper as to which one of the disciples was known to the high priest? None other than Judas Iscariot!

*That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.*

## Verses 16, 17 and 18

*But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. 17 Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not. 18 And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself.*

\* We read few more details about this encounter in Luke 22:31 - 32

*31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.*

Peter goes on to be infused by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, preaches to a crowd where 3000 people accept the Lord and then he becomes the head of the church as Jesus had said.

\* Verse 17 is Peter's first denial and Verse 18 shows how he tried to fit in with the 'boys'.

### **Verses 19, 20 and 21**

*The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. 20 Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. 21 Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.*

\*The high priest asks Jesus about His doctrine even though the priests and other religious leaders had heard Jesus teach in the temple. Jesus had no secrets or hidden agendas. The high priest knew the answers to the question; he was just trying to twist the truth and trick Jesus.

### **Verses 22, 23 and 24**

*And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest so? 23 Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me? 24 Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.*

### **Verses 25, 26 and 27**

*And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not. 26 One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him? 27 Peter then denied again: and immediately the cock crew.*

\* Here we read about Peter's second and then third denial of Jesus. Luke 22:56 - 62 also records this event. In Luke's account, verses 61 and 62 say "And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the

cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.”

\*Focusing on the last 2 words, Peter wept bitterly, a discussion began about tears (recalling the reaction to the movie mentioned in the beginning of the study tonight).

Tears are shed when you are emotional (high or low), in grief, in joy, and spiritually when we are touched by the Holy Spirit in conviction for our sins and in joy for how good God is in His mercy and grace.

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Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee  
While we are absent one from the other.

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