

Back to the Basics

Knowing My Savior (7)

Knowing My Savior: John 18 - 21

Memory Verse:
John 18:36

John 18:1-40

Chapter eighteen begins with Jesus and His disciples going out over the Brook Kidron to a garden. While Jesus and His disciples were in the garden, Judas Iscariot came to the garden. Judas brought with him officers from the chief priests and Pharisees as well as a detachment of troops. Upon seeing Judas and those with him, Jesus asked, *“Whom are you seeking?”* They answered, saying, *“Jesus of Nazareth.”* Jesus replied, *“I am He.”* When they heard what Jesus said, they drew back and fell to the ground. Again Jesus asked them whom they were seeking and again they replied, *“Jesus of Nazareth.”* At this point Jesus said, *“I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way.”* After this, Simon Peter drew his sword and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. Jesus rebuked Peter, saying, *“Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?”* (vs 1-11)

The troops and the captain arrested Jesus and led Him away. They took Jesus first to Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest. (This is the same Caiaphas who had prophesied that it was better for one man to die for the people.) Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. This other disciple (probably the apostle John) went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest while Peter stood at the door. When the other disciple brought in Peter, a servant girl questioned Peter saying, *“You are not also one of this Man’s disciples, are you?”* Peter answered, *“I am not.”* (v 17)

The high priest, Caiaphas, asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him saying, *“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. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said.”* (v 20-21) When Jesus had said this, one of the officers struck Jesus. Jesus said to him, *“If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?”* (v 23)

At this point, Annas sent Jesus bound to the high priest, Caiaphas. While Simon Peter stood and warmed himself, those standing with him said, *“You are not also one of His disciples, are you?”* Peter denied their accusation, saying, *“I am not!”* (v 25) Another person standing with Peter, a relative of the man whose ear Peter cut off said, *“Did I not see you in the garden with*

Him?” (v 26) Again, Peter denied knowing Jesus. After this third denial, the rooster crowed.

In the early morning, the rulers led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. Pilate went out and asked, “*What accusation do you bring against this Man?*” (v 29) The rulers replied, “*If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you.*” (v 30) Pilate then told the people to go and judge Jesus according to their law. However, the Jews told Pilate that they could not because it was not lawful for them to put anyone to death.

Pilate called for Jesus and asked Him, “*Are You the King of the Jews?*” (v 33) Jesus asked Pilate, “*Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?*” (v 34) Jesus went on to explain, “*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.*” (v 36) When Pilate asked Jesus if He was a king, 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.*” (v 37)

Pilate went out and told the Jews that he had found no fault in Jesus. He then offered to release Jesus since it was the Passover. The Jews cried out saying, “*Not this Man, but Barabbas!*” (v 40)

John 19:10-11

Then Pilate said to Him, “Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?” Jesus answered, “You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.”

John 19:1-42

Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and placed it upon Jesus’ head. The soldiers then put on Jesus a purple robe and said, “*Hail, King of the Jews!*” (v 3)

Pilate went out again and said to the Jews, “*Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him.*” (v 4) Pilate brought Jesus out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. When the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they yelled, “*Crucify Him, crucify Him!*” (v 6) Pilate explained that he had found no fault with Jesus. However, the Jews stated that their law said He had to die because He had made Himself the Son of God.

Pilate returned to Jesus and asked Jesus from where He had come. However, Jesus did not answer Pilate. Pilate said, “*Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?*” (v 10) Jesus answered Pilate, saying, “*You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.*” (v 11)

As Pilate tried to release Jesus, the Jews cried out, saying, “*If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar’s friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.*” (v 12) Pilate brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat. The people cried out all the more, saying, “*Away with*

Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” (v 15) Pilate said to the people, *“Shall I crucify your King?”* (v 15) The chief priests replied, *“We have no king but Caesar!”* At this point, Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified.

The soldiers led Jesus away to the place called Golgotha. There, the soldiers crucified Jesus with two others. On Jesus’ cross, Pilate had an inscription placed which read, *“JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.”* (v 19) Although the Jews protested this inscription, Pilate said, *“What I have written, I have written.”* (v 22) After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them up themselves, casting lots.

Mary, the mother of Jesus and her sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood by the cross. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved (possibly John), Jesus said, *“Woman, behold your son!”* (v 26) To His disciple, Jesus said, *“Behold your mother!”* (v 27) From that point on, the disciple took Jesus’ mother into his home.

At this point, Jesus, knowing that all things were accomplished, said, *“I thirst!”* (v 28) In response to His statement, someone filled a sponge with sour wine and put it to Jesus’ mouth. After receiving the sour wine, Jesus said, *“It is finished!”* (v 30) Then, Jesus bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Because the day of Jesus’ crucifixion was the Preparation Day, the day before the Sabbath, the Jews requested that Pilate break the legs of those on the cross. When the soldiers came to break the legs of those being crucified, they found that Jesus was already dead. Instead of breaking His legs, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear. Blood and water flowed from the wound.

Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, asked Pilate to allow him to take the body of Jesus. Pilate granted Joseph permission and Joseph took Jesus’ body. Nicodemus also came, bringing myrrh and aloes. Joseph and Nicodemus took Jesus’ body and prepared it for burial. They laid Jesus in a new tomb in the midst of the garden.

John 20:1-31

On the following first day of the week, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, while it was still dark. Mary saw that the stone covering the opening of the tomb had been taken away. Mary ran to Peter and John (the disciple whom Jesus loved) and said, *“They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”* (v 2) Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb. Peter went into the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying where the body had been. The handkerchief which had been around Jesus’ head was folded and placed by itself. The other disciple went into the tomb and saw and believed. The disciples left and went to their homes.

Mary remained, standing outside the tomb, crying. As Mary wept, she looked inside the tomb and saw two angels. One was sitting at the head and the other at the feet of where Jesus’ body had been laid. The angels asked Mary, *“Woman, why are you weeping?”* (v 13) Mary replied, *“Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”* (v 13) At this point, Mary turned around and saw Jesus, but she did not know it was Jesus. Jesus asked Mary, *“Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?”* (v 15) Mary, thinking that Jesus was

the gardener, said, *“Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.”* (v 15) Jesus addressed Mary directly, saying, *“Mary!”* (v 16) Mary turned around and said to Jesus, *“Rabboni!”* (v 16) Jesus said to Mary, *“Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’ ”* (v 17) Mary went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord and all that He had said to her.

Later that same day, the disciples were assembled together with the doors shut for fear of the Jews. While the disciples were assembled together, Jesus came and stood among them. Jesus said to them, *“Peace be with you.”* (v 19) Jesus also showed His disciples His hands and His side. The disciples were glad to see the Lord. Again, Jesus said to His disciples, *“Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”* (v 21) Jesus then breathed on them and said to them, *“Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”* (v 22-23)

Thomas, one of the twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus appeared to them. When the other disciples told Thomas that they had seen the Lord, Thomas said, *“Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”* (v 25) Eight days later, Jesus’ disciples were again assembled together, including Thomas. Jesus came in, with the doors being shut, and said, *“Peace to you!”* (v 26) Jesus then said to Thomas, *“Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”* (v 27) Thomas replied to Jesus, *“My Lord and my God!”* (v 28) Jesus said to Thomas, *“Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”* (v 29)

At this point, the writer John takes a moment to point out that Jesus had done many other signs while in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this gospel account. However, what has been written was written so that others may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, they would have life in His name.

John 20:26-29

And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

John 21:1-25

Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He showed Himself to several of His disciples. One such occasion is recorded in John 21. Verse 1 reads, *“After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: . . .”* (v 1)

While Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together, Peter said to them, *“I am going fishing.”* (v 3) The other disciples told Peter that they would go with him. Peter and his fellow disciples went out and got into a boat. By the time the morning had come, the disciples had caught no fish.

At this time, Jesus was standing on the shore. Jesus said to His disciples, *“Children, have you any food?”* (v 5) They said to Jesus, *“No.”* (v 5) Jesus said to His disciples, *“Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.”* (v 6) The disciples did as Jesus instructed. They caught so many fish that they were unable to draw the net into the boat.

When the disciple whom Jesus loved said, *“It is the Lord!”*, Simon Peter put on his outer clothes and jumped into the water. (v 7) The other disciples followed Peter in a smaller boat, since they were not far from shore. When the disciples came ashore, they saw a small fire of coals, fish on the fire and bread. Jesus said to His disciples, *“Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.”* (v 10) Simon Peter dragged the net to land. The net was full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three in all. Jesus said, *“Come and eat breakfast.”* (v 12) Jesus took the bread and the fish and gave it to His disciples to eat. This was the third time Jesus had shown Himself to His disciples after He had been raised from the dead.

After Jesus and His disciples had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Peter, *“Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?”* (v 15) Peter replied, *“Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”* (v 15) Jesus said to Peter, *“Feed My lambs.”* (v 15) Again, Jesus asked Peter, *“Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?”* (v 16) Again, Peter replied, *“Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”* (v 16) Jesus said, *“Tend My sheep.”* (v 16)

For the third time, Jesus said to Peter, *“Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?”* (v 17) Peter, being grieved, answered Jesus saying, *“Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.”* (v 17) Jesus said to Peter, *“Feed My sheep.”* Jesus then said to Peter, *“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.”* (v 18)

As Jesus continued talking with Peter, Peter turned around and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them. Peter asked Jesus, *“But Lord, what about this man?”* (v 21) Jesus said to Peter, *“If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.”* (v 22)

Apparently, what Jesus said had been misunderstood by the brethren. However, the writer John clarified that Jesus was not saying this disciple would not die. All Jesus said was, *“If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?”* (v 23)

The apostle John closed his record of the life of Jesus by testifying that what he had written was a true testimony. John then wrote, *“And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.”* (v 25)

Ten Questions

1. Who brought out a detachment of troops to the garden to arrest Jesus? _____
2. After His arrest, to whom was Jesus first taken? _____
3. Why did the Jews say they could not judge Jesus according to their law? _____

4. What did the soldiers place on Jesus' head? _____
5. What inscription did Pilate have placed on Jesus' cross? _____

6. Who were the two men who took Jesus' body and prepared it for burial? _____

7. Which lady went to Jesus' tomb on the first day of the week? _____
8. When Mary first saw Jesus after His resurrection, what did Jesus ask Mary? _____

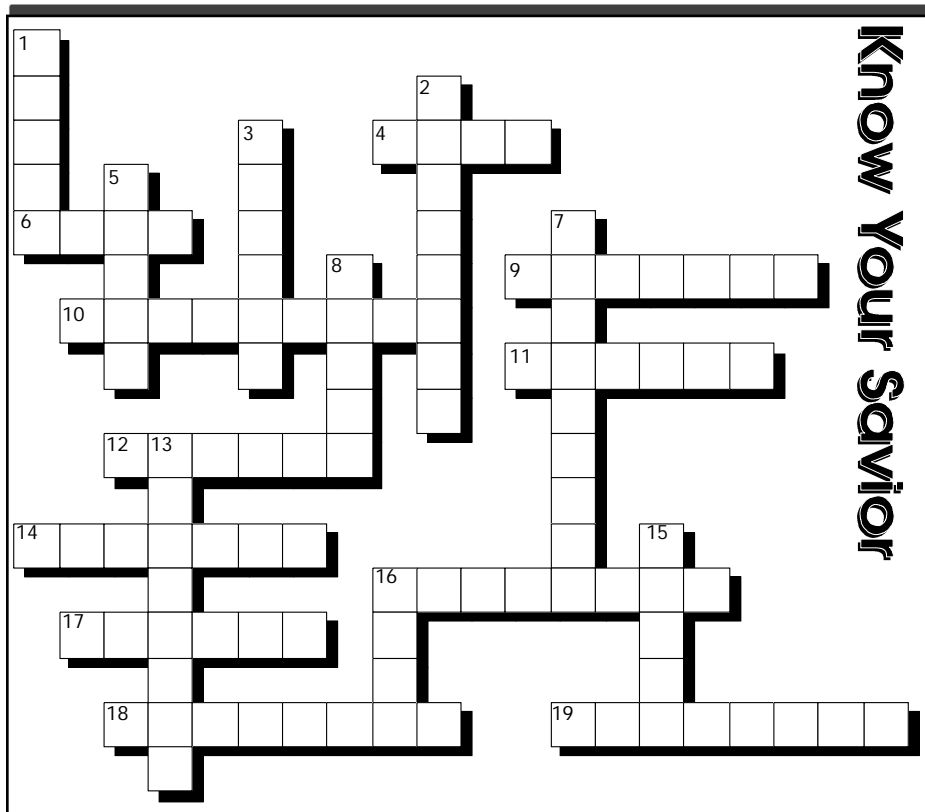
9. According to John, why were the signs of Jesus written? _____
10. What statement made by Jesus in chapter 21 was misunderstood? _____

True or False

1. T or F : Caiaphas was the father-in-law of Annas.
2. T or F : Pilate told the Jews that he had found no fault with Jesus?
3. T or F : Jesus bowed His head and gave up His spirit.
4. T or F : When the soldiers pierced Jesus' side, blood and water flowed from the wound.
5. T or F : Matthew and the disciple whom Jesus loved ran to the tomb after Mary told them that the Lord's body had been taken away.
6. T or F : The disciples had shut the door because they were fearful of the Jews.
7. T or F : Jesus showed Himself to His disciples at the Sea of Tiberias.
8. T or F : John said, "I am going fishing."
9. T or F : Jesus asked Peter three times if Peter loved Him.
10. T or F : Peter asked Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

A Little Fun

(Use the lesson text to answer these questions.)



Across

4. When this person looked into Jesus' tomb, she saw two angels.
6. Pilate asked Jesus, "Are You the _____ of the Jews?"
9. Jesus said, "My _____ is not of this world."
10. Mary _____ went to Jesus' tomb while it was still dark.
11. Pilate allowed _____ of Arimathea to take Jesus' body.
12. This man asked, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"
14. The chief priests and officers cried out, "_____ Him."
16. Jesus said, "It is _____!"
17. The soldiers put a _____ robe on Jesus.
18. The soldiers led Jesus away to the place called _____.
19. The Jews wanted this man released from prison instead of Jesus.

Down

1. The soldiers did not do this to Jesus' legs.
2. In the garden, Judas and the Pharisees came seeking Jesus of _____.
3. This disciple believed only after seeing Jesus' wounded hands and side.
5. This man was the father-in-law of Caiaphas.
7. Joseph and this person took the body of Jesus and bound it with strips of linen and spices.
8. Jesus said to His disciples, "_____ be with you."
13. Judas _____ betrayed Jesus.
15. This person denied Jesus three times.
16. Jesus fed His disciples _____ and bread.

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