

Gospel of John

Study Questions for Chapter 18:

1. Luke records Jesus' sweat was like "great drops of blood." What invisible agony was Jesus truly facing in Gethsemane that was worse than the physical cross?
2. The Jewish leaders refused to enter the Praetorium to avoid ritual defilement before the Passover. What single, major hypocritical action were they committing while maintaining this minor observance?
3. Peter, a fisherman, drew a sword and struck Malchus. What common utensil or tool might a fisherman usually handle, and how did Peter's action contrast with Jesus' true power?
4. When Jesus spoke the simple words, "I am He," the soldiers and officers fell backward to the ground. What does this instant, physical reaction immediately establish about the person they were trying to arrest?
5. Judas knew the specific garden location because Jesus "often met there." How did Jesus' previous habit of seeking peaceful communion become the very tool of his betrayal?
6. Peter's denials were triggered by simple questions from servants and onlookers. What emotional weight did the sound of the rooster crowing immediately carry for Peter, and why?
7. When Pilate asked Jesus, "Are You the King of the Jews?", Jesus described his kingdom as being "not of this world." How did this definition disarm Pilate's Roman charge of insurrection?
8. The crowd chose to release Barabbas ("son of the father"), a criminal, over Jesus. What contrast does the choice between these two "sons" make about humanity's preferred savior?
9. Pilate's dismissive question, "What is truth?", comes immediately after Jesus declares He was born to bear witness to it. What crucial element of a Roman governor's political existence made this question particularly difficult for him to answer or define?
10. Jesus mentioned he could call more than twelve legions of angels for help. Since he did not use this force, what single, world-changing outcome would have been prevented if he had?