

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH: GOSPEL OF JOHN
BELIEVING JESUS THE CHRIST: 34. THE TRIAL OF JESUS
MORNING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

KEY TEXT: JOHN 18:1-19:16

INTRODUCTION:

-although some believe that we can be Christians without believing in the cross, Paul speaks only about Christ and Him c_____ : He died for our s_____ – that is what the apostles p_____ (1 Corinthians 15)

I/ THE DISCOVERY: JESUS ARRESTED: 18:1-11

1. The Collusion Against Jesus: 18:3, 12 (See Psalm 2 in Acts 4:25-27; John 1:10-11)

-“band” denotes R_____ soldiers with the T_____ police: e_____ conspired against Jesus!

2. The Cup of the Father (18:11)

-Jesus came to do the Father’s w_____ ; in John 12, Jesus announced that the h_____ had come: it is no coincidence that Judas finds Jesus so e_____ !

-this is why Peter’s action misunderstands Jesus’ mission (compare Matthew 16:21-23)

II/ THE DELIBERATIONS ABOUT JESUS

1. The Injustice of the Trial: 18:12-14, 19-24 (and see 11:45-53)

-Annas seeks to examine Jesus in an unofficial trial without calling w_____ : this is what Jesus asks for (18:21), but He is being tried before u_____ judges

-in fact, John 11:45-53 showed that the decision was made long before the trial began!

2. The Infidelity of Peter: 18:15-18, 25-27; compare John 13:36-38; see also John 21:15-19; Luke 22:31-32

-his denials are to be understood as c_____ as to Jesus’ true nature and mission; but also stands as a warning to our misplaced c_____ in skill or method! As Christ outlined in John 14-17 – by the witness of the W_____ , through the power of the S_____ , depending on p_____

3. The Innocence and Inconvenience of Jesus: 18:28-19:16

-three times Pilate declares that Jesus is “n_____ g_____” (18:38; 19:4 and 19:6); the s_____ Lamb!

-but Jesus has become inconvenient: as Caiaphas had said in 11:45-53, he feared the n_____ would suffer; Pilate wanted to release Jesus, but not at any great personal/political c_____

III/ THE DECISION: JESUS HANDED OVER: 19:1-16

1. A Scandalous Verdict

-as shown by the release of Barabbas: the r_____ one dies and the sinner goes free!

2. A Scornful Verdict

-reveals the “o_____ of the cross”, the s_____ of dying under God’s c_____ (see Galatians 3)

3. A Sovereign Verdict: compare John 12:20-36

-as Isaiah put it, “it p_____ the Lord to bruise Him” (Isa.53:10); Jesus is “l_____ u_____” by the cross, and o_____ the world (John 16:33)

4. A Sinner’s Verdict

-do I believe that the cross is n_____ for me to be right with God, or is it offensive? Do I stand with those confessing Jesus is the Christ, the S_____ of the World?

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH
KINGS: “WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION”
N. THE DECEITFUL HEART: MANASSEH AND AMON
EVENING, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

KEY TEXTS: 2 KINGS 21

INTRODUCTION:

-Jeremiah began his ministry about 15 years after King Manasseh died, but his verdict in Jeremiah 17:9-10 applies: compare 2 Kings 23:23-27: after Manasseh, no going back from the judgment of God

I/ THE WICKEDNESS OF MANASSEH

1. Defamation of His Heritage: 2 Kings 21:1-3, 7-9

- he reverses the reforms of his father Hezekiah
- he adopts the model of Ahab, in spite of the recent destruction of Samaria by Assyria
- he abandons the God of David and Solomon: decisive, wilful rejection of God’s way even though a king in David’s line
- he pays no attention to the Law of Moses and its promises: 21:9: “they hearkened not” (See Deuteronomy 17:14-20)

2. Desecration of the Temple: 2 Kings 21:4-5, 7

-more than just supplementing true worship, Manasseh repurposed the Temple for Canaanite deities – which had been displaced when they conquered the land, and whose worship God explicitly forbade (compare Ezekiel 8-10)

3. Devotion to Idolatry: 2 Kings 21:6-7, 16

-intense devotion, almost fanatical, to pursue all the most horrific aspects of Canaanite religion; takes this even farther by openly persecuting and killing any who opposed him; said that he “seduced them to do more evil”: 21:9, 11, 16

II/ THE WARNINGS DISREGARDED

1. The Prophetic Voices: 2 Kings 21:10-11

2. The Covenant Curse: 2 Kings 21:12-15: Manasseh’s sins are a rejection of the covenant, and the judgment is final:

- such a judgment that will make ears tingle (21:12) implies that it is unbelievable
- it will be the same judgment as fell on Samaria because of Ahab
- it will be so thorough that it is like turning the bowl upside down and wiping it out
- it is the reversal of the Exodus: 21:15 (as Jeremiah will both teach and illustrate)

3. The King Cut Short: 2 Kings 21:17-26: Amon, son of Manasseh

-2 Chronicles 33:10-20: finally cried out to the Lord, and mounts a proper reform, that is undone by his son Amon, who joins Nadab, Elah, Ahaziah and Pekahiah as kings who inherit the throne and are killed within 2 years!

III/ THE WAY TO DEATH...AND LIFE

1. Failed Presuppositions: as Jeremiah said, it is *deceitful*: we believe the lie:

- that what matters is this material world, what we see and touch – like the “rich fool” of Jesus’ parable
- that human ingenuity can solve our problems, but only flourishes when we get rid of the Biblical faith
- that there are many gods: the intolerance of saying there is but one true God is...intolerable!
- that God is not good: the first lie that Satan told in the garden, repeated to this day

2. Faithful Preventatives

-the fear of the Lord: those who feared the Lord kept their perspective and relied on Him, trusting His promises

-learning from the past: the prophets are historians – and the histories of the Bible like the books of Kings are prophetic

-reading the Word: Moses’ instructions to the kings involved reading in the Law every day! Be students of the Word

3. Future Promises: Jeremiah 31:31-34

-there would be a new covenant! a faithful remnant who will know the Lord – the promise fulfilled in the Lord Jesus