

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
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The Book of John

Lesson 33 - awake thou sleeper

Return pages 6 & 7 only

Read: John 17: 1-26

John 18: 1-40

John 18:12 there are some historical reasons about the way he was captured:

- (1) In Matthew 26:48, Judas had bidden them, *hold him fast* because in Luke 4:29, John 8:59 and other places, you remember they tried to lay hold on Jesus and could not. Judas had watched those scenes and had been part of all them.
- (2) Secondly, to heap shame upon Jesus. Look you do not bind a man unless He is lawless or a criminal. It is a shameful act to treat someone who knew no sin in such a manner.
- (3) Because they deemed His worthy of death. He had not done them wrong and He had not done anyone in that nation wrong and yet they felt that He deserved to die.

Now in type, there are some reasons as well: (typology, typical reasons)

- (1) The offering of Isaac. (Genesis 22:9) Isaac was bound and laid upon the altar.
- (2) The animal sacrifices of the Old Testament were bound to the altar or bound and placed upon the altar. In Psalm 118:27, *God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.*
- (3) He took our place of bondage that we might be free. Psalm 40:12.

Verse 13. And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year. Now as we have talked about this all throughout this book of John, the Jews are in such a mess, they are in the same condition that Malachi left them in; and they have two high priests at the same time. God does not recognized either one of them. Annas was the high priest going back to Luke 3: 2; but he had been deposed of by the Romans, that of which can be learned by going to secular history. The best we know is he just was not the right man for the position. So they put Caiaphas in his place. He was the puppet of the Romans. There was a case back in the Old Testament were they had two high priests operating at the same time; in Second Samuel 8 and Second Samuel 20. Actually the real High Priest is standing before them with His hands tied. Annas or Caiaphas are not the high priest. Jesus is the great High Priest.



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In verse 14, Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. You remember he said that in John 11:50.

Verse 15. And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, We assume this is John. Everybody that writes about the book of John assumes that also. But that is leaning to John as the human author writing about what he remembers. The Holy Spirit had Luke write one of the four gospels and Luke was not one of the twelve apostles. He was not there for all of this, the Holy Spirit can gave it to him. ... that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest.

Verse 16. But Peter stood at the door without. (Now, you just mark it in your Bible, at this point, Peter is going to fall. James 1 warns you that God is going to allow Satan to tempt you and try to draw you away. Yet, you cannot be drawn away if your heart is right with the Lord. In First Corinthians 10:13, we are told that God will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Peter prepared himself to fall in the garden. You remember they went to the garden of Gethsemane and Jesus said, watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation Mark 14: 28; Luke 12: 46 he did not say, lest ye be tempted. You can pray all you want; you are going to be tempted. But He said, watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation. James 1:14-15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Jesus says watch and pray, Peter does not pray, Peter goes to sleep. Jesus comes back and wakes him up. "You better watch. You better pray. You are going to enter into temptation." Peter goes back to sleep. Peter did not prepare himself for the time of temptation.

Peter stood at the door without. Remember what Peter said, "I will go with thee even unto death." The Lord said, you better pray Peter because tonight I am going somewhere and if you do not pray, you are not going to follow me. Peter took a nap. Why? He was convinced he could do it without the prayer. Peter said: "I can handle this." "Jesus said pray". "Yeah, I know... but I am going to sleep... I need my strength if I am going follow the Lord." Where do you get your strength? From the Lord.

But Peter stood at the door without. Now, there is much speculation why he did not go into the palace, one is He was mad at Jesus about not being able to fight with the sword or He was afraid. The Holy Spirit says nothing about why, only that he did not go into the palace. Why is that important? Because it does not matter why you do not follow Jesus; only that you have



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chosen not to follow Jesus. The fact is you stopped following Jesus and as a result the devil is going to overcome you.

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. John was trying to pull him along; but people cannot pull you into following Jesus. If you do not want to come, at some point you will break that grip and just stop right where you are.

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. Look at verse 6. I am he... Verse 17, I am not... Well, you are correct, Peter, you are not. What did He tell them in chapter 15? ...without me, ye can do nothing. He saith, I am not. 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. Now take a look at how fast you can fall from your uprightness. Look at verse 5. And Judas also... stood with them. Verse 18. ...and Peter stood with them. That is a big step down in a hurry. "Judas, is an awful man, he is a devil..." Yes, but what would you be, if you stopped following Jesus? What would you be if you stood without the door instead of going on in with the Lord? Did Peter ever expect to find himself standing with them? I do not think so, but there he is.

We know from the other gospel accounts that he cursed and swore. We know that one of those who questioned him was just a little maid; and he became irate and angry with her and rebuked her for questioning him. We know how that Jesus warned Peter about the cock crowing. "You are going to deny me three times this night before the cock crow." I just wanted you to see at what point he stopped following the Lord, where his fall began. Once you start falling, you will go through that fall, eventually you will get up and go on. That is why it is so important that we continue to yield ourselves and incline our hearts toward the Lord, rather than leaning and inclining our hearts toward the things of the world, their ways, their people or those that do not want to follow the Lord because we have this idea that I am okay until I fall. And that is not Bible.

If you are leaning the wrong way, the fall is going to happen. Proverbs 24:16 For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: falling is inevitable. Which way am I leaning when I fall? I would rather fall into the arms of my Saviour than fall into the arms of the adversary. Peter is standing with them and warming himself. Lets look at Psalm 1 in comparison to what Peter is doing, He is warming himself at the enemies fire. Psalm 1:1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

Verse 19. The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the



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synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. The Lord did something here that is a blessing and you need to remember it when you are dealing with lost people out in the world. The high

priest asked Jesus about two things. Number one, His disciples. Number two, His doctrine. He completely passed over the inquiry about His disciples and went straight to His doctrine. Why is that important? Because you are not going to get saved by seeing the lifestyle of the disciples, you are only going to get saved if you believe the doctrine as taught by the Lord. Never argue with people when they want to talk down the brethren. If an unsaved man says "I do not want to get saved because Christians do this and Christians do that." Of course they do. That is why they trusted the Saviour. They looked in the mirror and said I am no good. Who can help me get to heaven in my condition, so they trusted the Lord. Now, who are you going to trust?

But here is what He said about His doctrine. He said, verse 21, *Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.* He said, do you want to know what I have taught? Ask the people. "They know what I have said." *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?* Now, honestly, I deserve hell and so do you. Okay? I know that if we offend in one point we are guilty of all, I would hate to rise in the day of judgment and stand at the white throne judgment and be looking in the face of the one I slapped with the palm of my hand. You talk about terror.

And he says, Answerest thou the high priest so? He just hit the High Priest. Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me? Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

Verse 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. One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off... Look who he just ran into. You would remember the face of a guy who just whacked off your relatives ear with a sword? He saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him? Peter then denied again: and immediately the cock crew.

Let me give you just a quick overview of Peter's denial. First of all, in the upper room, Peter bragged three times that he would stay true. (Matthew 26:33-35; John 13:37) In the garden, he had gone to sleep three times when he was told to pray. (Mark 14:32-41) By the enemy fire, he denied the Lord three times. After the resurrection, he had to confess his love to Jesus three times. (John 21, and we'll talk about that in more detail when we get there.) Jesus told him three times to feed others. In Acts 2, he fed the Jew. In Acts 10, he fed the Gentile. In First and Second Peter, he fed the church of God. It



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is a terrible thing that he fell but what a blessing that the Lord picked him up and cleaned him up and used him.

Lets see what Peter said about it later? First Peter 3:14. But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an

answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Do you think Peter was the right man to tell us to be ready to give an answer to those that ask you? Had he not been asked a reason of the hope that was in him? And what did he say was lacking? Look at verse 15. The Lord God in my heart. See, sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; then you will be ready. Peter thought he could do it for the Lord without the Lord ruling in His heart, reigning in his heart.

In the garden, he yielded to the weakness of the flesh. He went to sleep. He should have been standing. In the upper room, he fell into the snare of the devil, bragging... "I will never deny you..." Pride. In the priest courtyard, he yielded to the world. The world said, you are one of his? The world. The flesh. The devil. The three enemies of us. Again, whatever his motive was he gave in to pressure from the world and backed down and denied the Lord.

There are three times that Peter went to sleep. In Luke 9, you may not remember this but in Luke's account, Peter fell asleep on the mount of transfiguration. Peter almost slept through a very grand experience In Mark 13:37, he fell asleep and ended up falling into temptation. The last time he went to sleep shows that Lord had really done a work in Peter's life. He is in prison in Acts 12 facing execution and honestly, I do not think I could have gone to sleep that night with the judgment of death awaiting me in the morning. Yet, Peter is sound a sleep.

Notes



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Read	: John	17:	1-26
John	18: 1-4	40	

Name

- 1. Why does the world hate believers?
- 2. How then are believers set apart?
- 3. What does John 17: 19 reveal about the crucifixion?
- 4. For whom is Jesus praying for in John 17: 20-26?
- 5. How does John 17: 22-23 help explain the trinity?
- 6. How does John 17: 22-23 help explain the church being one body?
- 7. Describe how one could sever the right ear without inflicting other wounds?
- 8. What is the shameful picture of John 18:12-13?
- 9. What is striking about the actions of Peter in John 18:18?
- 10. What is striking about the actions of the crowd in John 18:18?



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11.	Why did	Peter r	make the	denial	in John	18:17?
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- 13. Compare the petitions of Jesus in John 17:20-26 with your prayers for your fellow church members. Are you praying as you should? In what particular area will you purpose to improve?
- 14. What does John 17: 21 teach us about the true nature of the Church?
- 15. What does John 17: 24 say to those who deny the deity of Christ?
- 16. In John 18 what does this binding of Jesus signify regarding the individual?

True/false

- Lifestyle evangelism is the best way to win the lost.
- It is okay to lean towards sin, just as long as you do not fall into sin.
- God would rather that His believers sleep, instead of praying.



Scripture memorization verses (write these in KJV on the back of this sheet) 1 Peter 3:14; Psalms 1:1-2



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any questions?