

On The Way To Easter...



With John's Gospel

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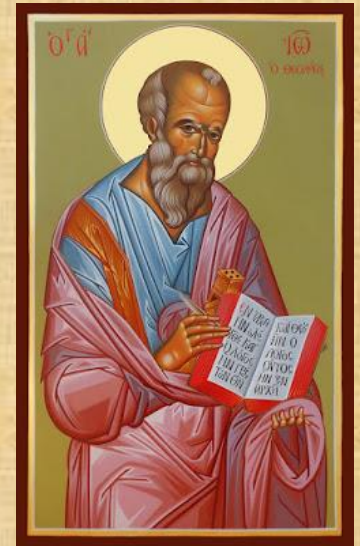
1. John: A “Spiritual Gospel”
2. The Jews: Authorities and Leading Citizens
3. The Romans: Pilate and Soldiers
4. The Disciples: Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene

An Opening Question



What comes to mind, or what do you remember, when you hear the term “**Sadducees**”?

Annas and Caiaphas



So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people....[Peter follows; in courtyard is questioned]... (18:12-14)

Caiaphas



But Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said, “You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed.”

(11:47-48)

Annas and Jesus



Jesus answered, “I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹ Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.”

(18:20--21)

Further Statements by Caiaphas and Leaders



1. Pilate said, “Behold the man!”
The chief priests and the
police shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”
2. Pilate said, “I find no case against him.” The
Jews answered, “We have a law, and accord-
ing to that law he ought to die, because he
claimed to be the Son of God.” *(19:4-7)*

Further Public Statements by Caiaphas and Leaders



3. From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar. (19:12)
4. Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” (19:15)

Who Rejects Jesus?



Pilate brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. He said to **the Jews**, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The **chief priests** answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

(19:13-15)

Joseph of Arimathea

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked

Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. (19:38)



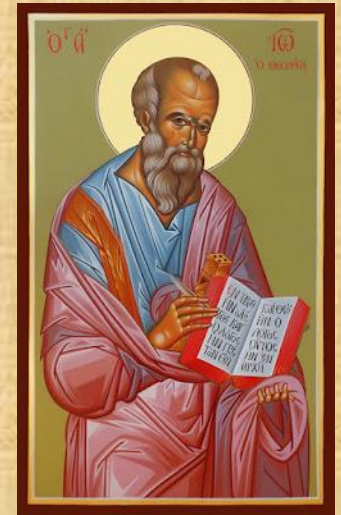
Nicodemus



Now there was a Pharisee named **Nicodemus**, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “**Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.**” **Jesus** answered him, “**Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.**”

(3:1-3)

Nicodemus Speaks Up



Nicodemus asked, “Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?” They replied, “Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.”

(7:50-52)

The Tomb



Nicodemus came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.... Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. (19:39-41)

Following the Burial Customs



Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

(19:39-40)

