

# JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

## JOHN 17

Text:

Introduction:

John 17 is one of the great prayers of the Bible. We see the Lord praying to His Father for Himself, and then praying for His disciples.

A few days earlier He had entered Jerusalem in triumph, but the Jewish leaders did not receive Him. He cleansed the temple and gave the Olivet discourse.

Now, a few days later, the disciples and the Lord have just eaten the Passover meal, and the Lord begins walking down into the Valley of Kidron.

Notice

### **1. A PLANNED JOURNEY**

**John 17:1**

<sup>1</sup> These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

A. Personal

- Planned Between the Father and the Son
- Planned Before the World Began

### B. Purposeful

- To Give Eternal Life

### **1 John 5:20**

<sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

- To Glorify God

### **John 17:4**

<sup>4</sup> I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

## **2. A PAINFUL JOURNEY – JOHN 18**

### A. Personal Betrayal

### **John 18:1**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples.

- Betrayed by Judas

Note—Judas had Satan in his heart, so he stood with Satan.

Note—Judas arrives with a band of Roman soldiers—perhaps the guard of the Sanhedrin.

Note—verse 5—“Judas stood with them.”

**John 18:5**

<sup>5</sup> They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am *he*. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them.

**Matthew 26:48**

<sup>48</sup> Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.

- Denied by Peter

**John 18:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> 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.

Note—In the upper room Peter had boasted that he would not deny the Lord!

**Matthew 26:33-34**

<sup>33</sup> Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended. <sup>34</sup> Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

Note—Peter stood with them and denied Jesus.

## B. Physical Beating

### **John 19:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged *him*. <sup>2</sup> And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put *it* on his head, and they put on him a purple robe, <sup>3</sup> And said, Hail, King of the Jews! and they smote him with their hands. <sup>4</sup> Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.

Note—The crowd has now asked that a common criminal, Barabbus, be released.

Note—The angry mob had taken Jesus to Pilates hall. He was Caesars representative in Judea.

Note—Pilate found no fault!

### **John 18:38**

<sup>38</sup> Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault *at all*.

Pilate perhaps thought that scourging Jesus (which was illegal) would move the hearts of the Jews and that they would want to see Him released. But their hearts were hard (12:40), and they were determined to destroy Him.

### 3. A POWERFUL JOURNEY (19:17-21)

#### John 19:17-21

<sup>17</sup> And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called *the place* of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: <sup>18</sup> Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. <sup>19</sup> And Pilate wrote a title, and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>20</sup> This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, *and* Greek, *and* Latin. <sup>21</sup> Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that he said, I am King of the Jews.

#### A. The Power of Love (vs. 17)

Note—"And he bearing his cross"—Jesus was an innocent man. Four times Pilate declared Jesus innocent. Yet under public pressure, he gave into the crowd and ordered Jesus to be crucified.

Note—He bore His Cross in love. Simon of Cyrene then carried it for Him.

#### B. The Power of Humility (vs. 18)

Crucified between two thieves

#### Isaiah 53:12

<sup>12</sup> Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors;

and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

### C. The Power of Redemption (vs. 18, 30)

#### **John 19:18**

<sup>18</sup> Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.

#### **John 19:30**

<sup>30</sup> When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Payment was made—verse 18