

John 288 “Behind The Scenes” John 18:1-5

In just over three years of studying the Gospel

of John, now we come to the climax of the book and also the climax of human history!

John’s focus in writing chapter 18 is not so much connected with Jesus’ agony but rather the fact that absolutely nothing took Him by surprise so, He never lost control for one second.

In the broadest sense, it’s Jesus Christ Who ultimately controls history and not man or angels.

And even though the sufferings and death of our Lord might appear to the uninitiated as His greatest defeat, they are actually His finest accomplishments as they proclaim His strategic and tactical victories.

The deception here and I wonder where it came from, is to think that man is ever in complete control of his own destiny.

“We want Barabbas, they shouted.” But what about Jesus, Pilate asked? To that question, they screamed their answer at him multiple times:

“CRUCIFY HIM!”

So, when we face disaster, we must remember that the Lord Jesus Christ Who faced the fiercest trials ever in history was in control all the way through and to this day and beyond, He remains in control of history to include providing for, securing and therefore, guaranteeing our ultimate destiny.

Unlike the Galileans, the Judeans celebrated Passover while the Lord Jesus was on the Cross; so, at the very time in which innocent lambs were dying undeservedly, the world was faced with the Lamb slain before its foundation, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world!

The supposed under-shepherds of Israel, God’s watchmen within the Sanhedrin were more interested in arresting popular Jesus to avoid a conflict with Rome than seeing to it that God’s chosen people receive His chosen Messiah.

The Lord Jesus remained in control no matter how out of control things around Him became.

Our Lord was convinced that nothing that could happen to Him could possibly deter the glory and joy that awaited Him in eternity!

Our Lord’s arresting party was made up of Romans and Jews together which may seem insignificant to many but it’s very significant to the Holy Spirit.

David crossed the Brook Kidron to escape the revolt of Israel and the Lord Jesus crossed it to meet the revolt of Israel.

In order for David to continue to be king, he had to avoid a revolution and for Jesus to become a king, He had to walk right into a revolution.

Because of his intimate status with and deep knowledge of the Lord Jesus, Judas was aware of His regular habits.

Most successful traitors tend to be people in high places with above average ability, opportunity and little or no character.