

**Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, February 18, 2024**  
**Sermon Series: The Gospel of the Kingdom – Matthew**  
**Message 118. “The Arrest and Trial of Jesus” – Matthew 26:47-68**  
**Pastor Phillip M Way**

Intro: In the Garden with His disciples, Jesus is identified by Judas and arrested by the crowd, but not before displaying His power and authority and challenging their cowardice in coming to arrest Him in the dark. As He is taken and tried illegally before the Jewish leaders and the Sanhedrin, we learn that the verdict was already set before the questioning had even begun.

- I. Betrayed – vs. 47-50
  - A. The Sign of a Kiss
  - B. “Get on with it!”
  - C. Seize Him – but first, see John 18:1-11
- II. “It Must Happen This Way” – vs. 51-56
  - A. Peter Defends Jesus
  - B. Jesus Rebukes Peter
    - 1. Not the place or the time – Quote #1
    - 2. Twelve legions of angels
    - 3. How will the Scriptures be fulfilled? – Quote #2
  - C. Jesus Addresses the Mob
  - D. The Disciples Abandon Jesus
- III. False Testimony and the Truth – vs. 57-64a
  - A. A Verdict before the Trial
  - B. An Illegal Trial
    - 1. Sanhedrin composed of 71 (23 priests, 23 scribes, 23 elders, 2 officers) – Matt. 16:21; Numbers 11:16-17
    - 2. Timing – capital crimes tried in daylight, between the morning and evening sacrifices (9AM to 3 PM)
    - 3. Trial could not be held on the day before a festival or Sabbath
    - 4. Trial had to occur in 1 of only 3 specified courtrooms, and the High Priests quarters were not one of them
    - 5. The trial must begin with hearing the defense, not the accusers
    - 6. Judges were not to accuse, but seek to defend the accused
    - 7. Witnesses, at least two, must agree on all points
    - 8. Majority vote required to convict, but a unanimous vote is invalid
    - 9. Guilt and sentencing could not take place on the same day
    - 10. The accused was not required to testify
    - 11. The High Priest was to remain completely silent the entire trial and voted last
  - C. False Witnesses
  - D. Jesus Kept Silent – Isa. 53:7
- IV. Blasphemy! – vs. 63b-66
  - A. “As God Lives, are You the Messiah, the Son of God?”
    - 1. Messiah – yes, but time would tell, as many had so claimed
    - 2. Son of God – yes, see Psa. 82:6; John 10:34-36
    - 3. The Messiah, the Son of God – this would mean that Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah and equality with God

- B. Jesus Did Not Have to Answer – Matt. 5:33-37
- C. “You Yourself Have Said It” – **I AM** – John 18:5; Mark 14:62; Luke 22:70
  - 1. Jesus Quotes Daniel 7:13-14, Removing All Doubt as to His Identity
  - 2. The High Priest’s Torn Clothing – Lev. 21:10-11
- V. Jesus Beaten and Mocked – vs. 67-68 – Isaiah 50:6 – Quote #3

**Quotes – Charles H Spurgeon**

- 1. “The sword never helps to establish Christ’s Kingdom; all that is ever done by it will have to be undone. Brute force will throw down what brute force has built up.”
- 2. “Jesus thought more of fulfilling Scripture than of being delivered from the hands of wicked men.”
- 3. “They were spitting in their Creator’s face.”

## **Cross References**

### **John 18:1-11**

18 When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples to the other side of the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, into which He entered with His disciples. 2 Now Judas also, who was betraying Him, knew the place, for Jesus had often gathered there with His disciples. 3 Judas then, having received the Roman cohort and officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, \*came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. 4 So Jesus, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, went forth and \*said to them, “Whom do you seek?” 5 They answered Him, “Jesus the Nazarene.” He \*said to them, “I am He.” And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them. 6 So when He said to them, “I am He,” they drew back and fell to the ground. 7 Therefore He again asked them, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus the Nazarene.” 8 Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He; so if you seek Me, let these go their way,” 9 in order that the word which He spoke would be fulfilled, “Of those whom You have given Me, I lost not one.” 10 Simon Peter then, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear; and the slave’s name was Malchus. 11 So Jesus said to Peter, “Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?”

### **Matthew 16:21**

21 From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.

### **Numbers 11:16-17**

16 Yahweh therefore said to Moses, “Gather for Me seventy men from the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and their officers, and take them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. 17 Then I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take of the Spirit who is upon you, and will put Him upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you will not bear it all alone.

### **Isaiah 53:7**

7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.

### **Psalms 82:6**

6 I said, “You are gods, And all of you are sons of the Most High.

### **John 10:34-36**

34 Jesus answered them, “Has it not been written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? 35 If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), 36 do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

### **Matthew 5:33-37**

33 “Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not make false vows, but shall fulfill your vows to the Lord.’ 34 But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ or ‘No, no’; anything beyond these is of the evil one.

**John 18:5**

5 They answered Him, “Jesus the Nazarene.” He \*said to them, “I am He.” And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them.

**Mark 14:62**

62 And Jesus said, “I am; and you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”

**Luke 22:70**

70 And they all said, “Are You the Son of God, then?” And He said to them, “You yourselves say that I am.”

**Daniel 7:13-14**

13 “I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And came near before Him. 14 And to Him was given dominion, Glory, and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations, and men of every tongue Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not be taken away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.

**Leviticus 21:10-11**

10 ‘And the priest who is the highest among his brothers, on whose head the anointing oil has been poured and who has been ordained to wear the garments, shall not uncover his head nor tear his clothes; 11 nor shall he approach any dead person nor defile himself even for his father or his mother;

**Isaiah 50:6**

6 I gave My back to those who strike Me, And My cheeks to those who pluck out the beard; I did not hide My face from dishonor and spitting.