

John 18: The Beloved King

Lesson Theme: The Good Confession of Life

1 Timothy 6:11-16–

But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and *before* Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep *this* commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, which He will manifest in His own time, *He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.*

John 18:1-27: In the Garden

1. Surrender to the Father in heaven had to be in a garden for the Last Adam. (John 18:1) [Luke 22:39-44](#)
2. Jesus was fully aware that his betrayer, Judas, would betray Him in the garden. That's the character of Satan himself. (John 18:2-3) [Genesis 3:1](#); [John 8:44b](#)
3. When Jesus proclaimed Gr: *ego eimi* "I AM", it caused those who were trying to arrest Him to fall to the ground. This demonstrates that God allowed His enemy to capture Him. No one can truly bind God. (John 18:5-8a)
4. Jesus' fulfilled His word already in making sure His disciples were let go. (John 18:8b-9) [John 17:12](#)
5. Jesus told Peter to put His sword away so that the plan of God could be fulfilled. (John 18:10-11)
6. Jesus was first led to Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas the high priest. (John 18:12-14)
7. We will see several interchanges between John and Peter—two of Jesus' closest disciples—starting here in the gospel of John. We'll see these interchanges noted again in John 20:2-8 and John 21:20-23. (John 18:15-16)
8. Peter begins his denial of Jesus. (John 18:17-18)
9. Jesus defended Himself with open truth and witnesses. Everything He did through the process to the cross was done with perfect righteousness. (John 18:19-24) [John 15:22-25](#)

10. Peter gave his second and third denials of Jesus, thus fulfilling Jesus' words to him, merely hours before. (John 18:25-27) **John 13:36-38**

John 18:28-40: The Good Confession

11. The hypocrisy of the religious leaders was on full display during Jesus' trial. To give an illegal, middle-of-the-night trial then not want to be defiled to eat the Passover was complete hypocrisy. (John 18:28)

12. The religious leaders wanted Jesus to be crucified. They could only accomplish that through a Roman judgment. Crucifixion was a Roman punishment. Stoning was the way Jewish criminals were put to death. (John 18:29-32) see **Leviticus 24:16**, for example.

13. Jesus gave the confession of life before Pilate. (John 18:33-37)

14. Pilate confessed to the Jews he found no guilt in Jesus at all, and tried to release Jesus. But the crowd refused and wanted a robber instead. (John 18:38-40)

Conclusion:

- Jesus displayed perfect righteousness all the way to the cross. Even in the midst of a wicked, illegal trial, Jesus remained perfect and innocent. Jesus' character is not only righteousness, but He Himself is Righteousness Incarnate.