

New Testament Church
The Book of John #34 – John 18:1-27 – Trial of the Church
October 18, 2026 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Gospel of John - Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?

- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
 - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
 - 2. The gospels reveal the “four faces” of Christ – king, servant, man, eagle
- B. John, author of John, 1st, 2nd, 3rd John and Revelation was a disciple of John the Baptist
- C. The seven **signs** that indicate critical aspects of Deity of Christ in the book of John
 - 1. 1st – **water into wine** (Jn 2) – **New Life**; 2nd – **healing Nobleman’s son** (Jn 4)- **Faith in Word**
 - 2. 3rd – **healing cripple** (Jn 5) – **Undeserving Grace**; 4th – **feeding 5,000** (Jn 6) – **Bread of Life**
 - 3. 5th – **walking on water** (Jn 6) – **Transcendence**; 6th – **healing man born blind** (Jn 9) - **Sight**
 - 4. The **seventh SIGN** of raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11) – **Resurrection Life**
- D. The seven **I AM** statements by Jesus – declaring who He is...
 - 1-2. In John 6 and 8 - **I am the Bread of Life; I am the Light of the World**
 - 3-4. In John 10 – **I am the Door** and **I am the Good Shepherd**
 - 5-6. In John 11 and 14 – **I am the Resurrection and Life; I am the Way, Truth and Life**
 - 7. John 15 – **I am the true Vine and my Father is the Husbandman**

II John 18:1-27 – The two trials of the Church

- A. v. 1-11 – Preliminary trial - **I am He** – Jesus declares who He is to the Temple Police
 - 1. v. 1a – Jesus and the disciples crossed over the brook Kedron
 - a. Often up to a quarter of a million families sacrificed lambs at this time
 - b. It is probable that the brook they crossed was red with blood – a foreshadowing
 - 2. v. 1b – the **Garden of Gethemane** – someone wealthy had given them a key - “oil press”
 - a. Weight of sacks – anointing oil – *let this cup pass, not my Will but Thine* – Mt. 26:39
 - b. Crushing stones – food and medicine – same prayer, Mt. 26:42 (sweat blood v.43)
 - c. Final press – more weight – heat and light - same prayer- Mt. 26:44
 - 3. v. 2-11 – **Who do you seek?** Judas gets the Temple guards to come with him
 - a. After they said Jesus of Nazareth – Jesus declared **I AM** (v. 6)
 - b. The power of His Word knocked them down – and He said again – who do you seek?
 - c. Then let the others go – Peter drew his sword and cut off Malchus’ ear (HP servant)
 - d. Jesus heals Malchus’ ear (Luke 22:51) – this was His last miracle before the Cross
 - e. Jesus tells him *live by sword, perish by it* (Mt. 26:52) – violence doesn’t bring Kingdom
 - 4. **The Church is to adopt methods of peace to bring the Kingdom** – yet prepare for self-defense
- B. v. 12-27 – Church Trial – a “kangaroo” or fraudulent Court held by the Church (Jesus arrested)
 - 1. v. 12-14 – Bring Jesus bound before Annas (shadow of law by bringing him before Annas first)
 - a. Biblically, Annas was still High Priest, but Rome made the High Priest rich by rotation
 - b. Biblically, innocent until proven guilty (Dt. 17:6 – Jesus presumed guilty)
 - c. Sanhedrin were supposed to have day trials – open and public, this one at night
 - 2. v. 15-18 – John went in and out and learned what went on, Peter was outside, he denies Jesus
 - 3. v. 19-24 – Jesus is questioned... all fraudulent courts are modeled after Jesus’ “Church trial”
 - a. Jesus said He spoke openly, ask the people who heard (biblical wisdom – witnesses)
 - b. He was then struck – but Jesus said “what evil have I spoken?” (forced testimony)
 - 4. v. 25-27 – Peter denies the Lord twice more – **We can only stand by His grace, not our effort!**
 - a. As he warmed himself by the fire, he was asked again if He was a disciple, he denied it
 - b. A relative of Malchus recognized Peter but he denied again, and the Rooster crowed
 - c. We must understand that all the disciples fled – Peter represents to us the truth that it is not our promises that keep us but by His Grace!