

On the Way to Easter with...John's Gospel
"The Jews: Authorities and Leading Citizens"

18:12 So **the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police** arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³ First they took him to **Annas**, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴ **Caiaphas** was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people....¹⁹ Then the high priest [Annas] questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰ Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹ Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." ²² When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³ Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴ Then **Annas** sent him bound to **Caiaphas** the high priest....

19:4 Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵ So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶ When the **chief priests and the police** saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷ **The Jews** answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God"... ¹² From then on Pilate tried to release him, but **the Jews** cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar." ¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to **the Jews**, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The **chief priests** answered, "We have no king but Caesar"...

³⁸ After these things, **Joseph of Arimathea**, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. ³⁹ **Nicodemus**, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.