

Knowing all things that were coming upon Him

John 18:1-4

18 When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples. 2 Now Judas also, who was betraying Him, knew the place, for Jesus had often met 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."

When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth.

That's saying a mouthful.

/“These words” refer to all that Jesus said and taught in chapters 14, 15, 16, & 17. \

Here as we begin chapter 18, the narrative resumes. “He went forth”.

/John 18-20 is the Holy of Holies of this gospel.\ In fact, without these chapters, there is no gospel.

Reading these chapters as a boy, I would say to myself, “Don’t worry – the worst is almost over. Don’t worry, He is going to rise from the dead!”

/These three chapters record the arrest, trials, crucifixion, burial and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.\

All four gospels record these events.

/These are the events that secured our salvation.\ This is the gospel message.

1 Cor 15:1-4

Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

/The apostle John, the human author of the fourth gospel, was an eyewitness to these events. \

He gave a first-person account. He was present for it all.

He went over the ravine of the Kidron valley with Jesus.

He was the only one of the twelve who was present at the cross.

He saw the soldiers as they cast lots for the clothes of Jesus.

He stood with Mary, the mother of Jesus. It was he to whom Jesus said, “Behold your mother”.

He heard the words “ It is finished”, and with his own eyes saw Jesus bow His head and give up His spirit.

John saw the soldier pierce the side of Jesus, saw the blood and water gushing forth from the wound

John 19:34-35

34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. 35 And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe.

He ran with Peter to the empty tomb, beating him out. He stooped in and saw the linen wrappings.

/He witnessed first-hand the greatest events in human history. He wrote his testimony down. \

John 21:24

24 This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and wrote these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

For two thousand years, people have read his words. Millions believed in Christ as a result.

/In John as in nowhere else, we are forced to realize that Jesus knew His destiny from the outset of His public ministry. \

He relentlessly pushed ahead, knowing the suffering that awaited Him.

From the beginning of the gospel of John, the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ are in view.

/In fact, every chapter has at least one reference to His death and/or resurrection\

I'll read them. You can listen. Cumulative effect. Tells the story. Gains speed.

In chapter 1 -

John 1:29

*29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**"*

Chapter 2 –

John 2:18-22

*18 The Jews then said to Him, "What sign do You show us as your authority for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" 20 The Jews then said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" 21 But He was speaking of the **temple of His body**. 22 So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.*

Chapter 3 –

John 3:14-15

*14 "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must **the Son of Man be lifted up**; 15 so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.*

Chapter 4-

John 4:41-42

*41 Many more believed because of His word; 42 and they were saying to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed **the Savior of the world.**"*

Chapter 5 –

John 5:15-18

15 The man went away, and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. 16 For this reason the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because He was doing these things on the Sabbath. 17 But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

*18 For this reason therefore the Jews were **seeking all the more to kill Him**, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.*

Chapter 6-

John 6:51

*51 "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and **the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.**"*

Chapter 7-

John 7:30

*30 So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because **His hour had not yet come.***

/Seven times in John there is a reference to "the hour" for which Jesus came. All seven point to the cross.

John 7:32-34

*32 The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to seize Him. 33 Therefore Jesus said, "For a **little while longer I am with you, then I go to Him who sent Me. 34 "You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come."***

Chapter 8-

John 8:28

28 So Jesus said, "When you **lift up the Son of Man**, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.

Chapter 9-

John 9:4-5

4 "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; **night is coming** when no one can work. 5 "**While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.**"

Chapter 10-

John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd; **the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.**

John 10:17

17 "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I **lay down My life** so that I may **take it again.**

Chapter 11

John 11:25

25 Jesus said to her, "**I am the resurrection and the life**; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,

John 11:49-51

49 But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that **one man die for the people**, and that the whole nation not perish." 51 Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation,

Chapter 12-

John 12:23-24

23 And Jesus answered them, saying, "**The hour has come** for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies**, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 12:32-33

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." 33 But He was saying this to indicate **the kind of death** by which He was to die.

Chapter 13-

John 13:1

*13 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that **His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father**, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.*

Chapter 14-

*John 14:30 "I will not speak much more with you, for **the ruler of the world is coming**, and he has nothing in Me;*

Chapter 15-

John 15:13-14

*13 "Greater love has no one than this, that **one lay down his life for his friends**. 14 "You are My friends if you do what I command you.*

Chapter 16-

John 16:5-7

5 *"But **now I am going to Him who sent Me**; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?'* 6 *"But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.* 7 *"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.*

Chapter 17-

John 17:1

*Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "**Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,***

That brings us to chapter 18. We'll resume the story next week, beginning with the arrest of Jesus in the garden.