

Courage in Court; Cowardice in the Courtyard (John 18:19-40)

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Introduction

Questioned by the High Priest (18:19-24)

¹⁹ So the high priest interrogated Jesus about His disciples and about His teaching.

²⁰ Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I at all times taught where Judeans always congregate in synagogues and in the temple *courtyard*, and I have spoken nothing in secrecy.

²¹ "Why do you question Me? Question those who heard what I told them. Look, they know the *things* I said."

²² And having said these *things*, one of the deputies standing by struck Jesus, saying, "Do You answer the high priest thus?"

²³ Jesus answered him, "If I spoke wrongly, testify about the wrong, but if rightly, why do you strike Me?"

²⁴ Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas, the high priest.

Peter's Second and Third Denials in the High Priest's Courtyard (18:25-27)

²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So *people* said to him, "You are not one of His disciples also, *are you?*" So he denied *it* and said, "I am not."

²⁶ One of the high priest's servants (being related to the one whose ear Peter had severed) said, "Did I not see you with Him in the garden?"

²⁷ So Peter again denied *it* and immediately a rooster crowed.

Appearance before Pilate (18:28-38a)

²⁸ So they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the Palace, and it was early morning. But they did not enter the Palace, lest they be defiled, but so they might eat Passover.

²⁹ So Pilate came outside to them and said, "What accusation do you • bring against this man?"

³⁰ They told him in response, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have handed Him over to you."

³¹ So Pilate told them, "Take • Him yourselves • and judge • Him according to your • law." Therefore those Judean *leaders* said to him, "It is not lawful for us to execute anyone,"

32 so Jesus' word (which He said) might be fulfilled, signifying by what kind of death He was about to die.

33 So Pilate again entered the Palace, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Judeans?"

In John, loudaios means Judean, not Jew. All of John's 70 uses of loudaios mean Judean:

1:19; 2:6, 13, 18, 20; 3:1, 22, 25; 4:9ab, 22; 5:1, 10, 15-16, 18; 6:4, 41, 52; 7:1-2, 11, 13, 15, 35; 8:22, 31, 48, 52, 57; 9:18, 22ab; 10:19, 24, 31, 33; 11:8, 19, 31, 33, 36, 45, 54-55; 12:9, 11; 13:33; 18:12, 14, 20, 31, 33, 35-36, 38-39; 19:3, 7, 12, 14, 19-20, 21abc, 31, 38, 40, 42; 20:19

34 Jesus answered him, "Do you say this from yourself, or did others tell you about Me?"

35 Pilate replied, "I am not a Judean, *am I?* Your nation and the chief priests handed You over to me. What have You done?"

36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not *sourced* from this world. If My kingdom were *sourced* from this world, My servants would have fought, lest I be handed over to the Judean *leaders*. But now My kingdom is not *sourced* from here."

He does not deny that the Millennial Kingdom will be on planet earth. He denies that _____

37 So Pilate said to Him, "Are You not, therefore, a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this *purpose* I was born, and for this *purpose* I have come into the world— to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice."

38a Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

Bar-abbas or Jesus? (18:38b-40)

38b And after saying this, he again went outside to those Judeans and told them, "I find in Him no charge.

39 "But it is a custom for you• that I release one *man* for you• at Passover. So do you• wish me to release the King of the Judeans for you•?"

40 So they again all shouted, saying, "Not this one, but Bar-abbas." Now Bar-abbas was a bandit.

Conclusion