



The Reason

By Terry Kountz on October 6, 2022

TODAY'S READING: John 18

Religious leaders arrest Jesus and take Him to the high priest for questioning. Peter follows behind and denies knowing Jesus. After holding their own hearing, the Jews press charges against Jesus in the Roman court.

The scene in John 18 is an unimaginable disaster. Jesus is betrayed by one of His closest friends. He is arrested and bound by Roman soldiers, then interrogated and treated like a criminal. Seemingly, everything had gone wrong.

But in reality, everything was going according to plan. John makes it clear that Jesus was not a victim of circumstance, but in complete control. Jesus foretold these events. He turned himself over to them *"knowing all that would happen to him"* (John 18:4), and He declared to Pilate, *"For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world"* (John 18:37 ESV). How could Jesus continue to submit to the situation? He trusted in God's perfect plan.

In the same way Jesus trusted in the goodness of the Father despite His circumstances, we can trust that God is in complete control over every aspect of our lives. Even when events are outside of our control, we can rest assured that God is graciously orchestrating everything for our ultimate good and His glory (Romans 8:28). Today, thank God for His goodness and His authority over all circumstances. Ask Him to help you remember this truth in the face of any difficulty.

PRAYER: Lord, You are the reason for everything. Thank You that no matter what is going on around us, You are in control. We can trust in You and Your plans, even if we do not understand. Help me trust You more today!

TOMORROW'S READING: John 19

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