

“When Jesus is No Longer Wanted”

John 18:1-5

Introduction

- I. It might seem unbelievable, but Jesus is seemingly no longer wanted by many.
 - A. Some have no use for Him anymore.
 - B. Others wanted a weaker version that suits their desires.
- II. This not the first time in history that men no longer wanted Jesus.
 - A. Judas
 - B. Peter
 - C. Annas
 - D. Pilate

Discussion

- I. Judas no longer wanted Jesus.
 - A. Judas allowed money to compromise his dedication to Jesus (Matt. 26:14-16; cf. John 12:4-8).
 - B. His betrayal was done with a kiss (Luke 22:47-48).
 - C. Instead of standing beside the Lord, Judas stood with the soldiers (John 18:5).
 - D. What would be enough for us to no longer want Jesus (Mark 8:36-37).
 - E. Do most stand with or against Jesus today?
- II. Peter no longer wanted Jesus.
 - A. Peter was defiant in his position that he would not deny the Lord (John 13:36-38).
 - B. In the garden, Peter defended the Lord (John 18:10-11).
 - C. The time came where Peter denied the Lord on three occasions (John 18:15-18, 25-27).
 - D. Thankfully, Peter came to his senses and repented, which led to Jesus taking him back (Matt. 26:75; John 21:15-19).
- III. Annas and Caiaphas no longer wanted Jesus.
 - A. Granted, Annas and Caiaphas had not been the closest ally of the Lord to start.
 - B. Their disdain for Jesus was clearly demonstrated (John 18:19-24, 28).
- IV. Pilate no longer wanted Jesus.
 - A. Pilate was willing to release Jesus (John 19:12).
 - B. The Jews would have nothing of it, and eventually, Pilate has Jesus sent away and crucified (John 19:16-19).

Conclusion

- I. Today, people seemingly want Jesus less and less (removed from government, schools and everyday culture).
- II. We must never get to the point where we no longer want the Lord (Heb. 4:1).