

## GOD IS UP TO SOMETHING

March 11, 2018 John 11:45-57 by Bob Branch  
Finding Jesus, Finding Life part 34

---

**QUESTION:** *Have you ever come through a very dark season and looked back and saw that God was working, orchestrating, even in the darkness?*

**BIG IDEA:** In the dark events of Jesus' death, God was orchestrating a new kind of freedom from sin, guilt and death, available to all who trust him.

<sup>45</sup> Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. <sup>46</sup> But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. "What are we accomplishing?" they asked. "Here is this man performing many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation."

**1. People can STUBBORNLY RESIST God for all kinds of reasons, even when he is revealing himself clearly to them.**

<sup>49</sup> Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that [fateful] year, spoke up, "You know nothing at all! <sup>50</sup> You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish." <sup>51</sup> He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, <sup>52</sup> and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one. <sup>53</sup> So from that day on they plotted to take his life.

**2. Jesus will die and people will be SAVED-RESCUED through it!**

*"One died for all"* **2 Corinthians 5:14**

"Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" **John 1:29** (John 3:14-15; 6:51; 8:28; 10:15)

"When I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." **John 12:32** (1 Pet. 2:24; 1 John 2:2)

*Jesus is that "Passover Lamb"* **1 Cor. 5:7**

<sup>56</sup> They kept looking for Jesus, and as they stood in the temple courts they asked one another, "What do you think? Isn't he coming to the festival at all?" <sup>57</sup> But the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him."

"This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead..." **Acts 2:23-24** (3:18f)

"Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen." **Acts 4:27-28**

**3. You may be going through a very dark time now and it may look hopeless, but it is not, because GOD IS UP TO SOMETHING! He is orchestrating something. Believe him. Submit to him. Obey him.**