



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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John 11:47-57 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [Class Preparation Guide](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. What did the council know Jesus was doing and what did they know about the result among many in the crowds who heard and saw Him.

They knew that Jesus was performing many signs. They knew that many in the crowds were believing in Jesus and eventually everyone would believe in Jesus if they did not stop Him.

2. What did the council think would happen if everyone eventually believed in Jesus as the Messiah?

They feared the Romans would come and destroy their temple and their nation; thereby, they would lose their influence, wealth, and power

3. What did Caiaphas, the high priest, advise the council? Why did he advise this?

He advised that it was better for one man (Jesus) to die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed (which would have included them). He did not say this on his own. He prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation and gather into one the dispersed children of God.

4. Why did the Jews go to Jerusalem before the Passover? Did they demonstrate the effectiveness of their preparations later? Why or why not?

They went to Jerusalem early to purify themselves for celebrating the Passover. No. At the urging of the council and the chief priests, many of them called out for Jesus to be crucified.

5. What were the orders of the Pharisees and the chief priests?

They ordered that anyone who knew where Jesus was should let them know so they might arrest Jesus. Judas eventually did as they ordered. He obeyed men rather than God.

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