

THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

¹³ "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. ¹⁴ BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT. MATTHEW 7:13-14

es-sen-tials (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

The Gospel of Mark A BIBLE STUDY

SESSION FIFTEEN

Mark 14:53-15:32

Questions for Session Fifteen

1. What was/who were the Sanhedrin? What was its function as an organization in Jewish culture and tradition? Why was Jesus brought before the Sanhedrin? What do you suppose Peter was doing there?
2. Explain the implication of Jesus' statement regarding the tearing down of the temple and rebuilding it in three days. What was all the false testimony about, and why did the stories of the accusers not agree?
3. Who recognized Peter first as he was there with the guards in the courtyard warming himself? What was her reaction to seeing him there? What was Peter's reaction to the accusation of his association with *that* Nazarene?

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4. Scripture teaches that Peter was accused of his association with Jesus on three separate occasions. Who made the accusations? What was Peter's response each time? How did this round of activity fulfill Old Testament prophecy?

5. How and when did the Sanhedrin arrive at a decision regarding Jesus? What did they propose to do with him?

6. Who was Barabbas? How did his presence play into all this activity? Could this have been his fifteen minutes of fame?

7. How did Pilate *finally* deal with Jesus? What were Pilate's thoughts? What was the final sentence?

8. Historically, what is the Prætorium? Why was Jesus taken there? How was Jesus treated while he was there? What is the significance of Jesus' new wardrobe? Explain in some detail.

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9. Who was this other man named Simon? From where had he come, and what was his role in all of this?

10. With whom was Jesus' crucified? Describe their behavior. How did they treat Jesus? If you had been present, how might you have reacted to all this—*having never been exposed to the complete Bible*—if you were a first century Jew?

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