

*Biblical Drama based on John 12:9-19**Character Parts: Narrators 1-8, Peasant, Informer, Pharisee, Priest, Caiaphas*

Narrator 1: After Jesus had raised his friend Lazarus from the dead, crowds started to gather around him.

Peasant: Look! It's Jesus!

Narrator 2: When crowds learned that Jesus was coming up to Jerusalem for the Festival of Passover, many people came out to see him.

Peasant: Did you hear that Jesus brought a dead man back to life?

Informer: How can that be? Only God has the power to give life!

Narrator 3: Many of the Jews who had been with Mary and Martha and had seen what Jesus did believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done.

Informer: Do you know what people are saying about this man Jesus? They say he raised a person from the dead.

Pharisee: I have heard this Jesus is very popular. The common people have been making up stories. They'll believe anything they hear!

Informer: But this Jesus has many followers! He is coming here to the city! Who knows what he will do.

Pharisee: We had better warn the Council.

Narrator 4: So the Pharisees gathered the chief priests and the Jewish Council to discuss what should be done.

Pharisee: What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him.

Priest: Not only that, if this man Jesus causes a riot, the Romans will be angry. They will send

their soldiers to come and take away both our place and our nation.

Pharisee: I think we need to get rid of him!

Priest: We wouldn't have to kill him, would we? That doesn't sound good.

Narrator 5: At that point, one of the members of Council stood up and called for their attention. His name was Caiaphas, and he was serving as the high priest that year.

Caiaphas: You people know nothing at all. Don't you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people instead of our whole nation being destroyed!

Narrator 6: He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one all the children of God.

So from that day on the Council made plans to put him to death.

Narrator 7: When Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. They were looking for Jesus and gossiping to one another as they stood in the temple.

Peasant: What do you think? Will Jesus come to the feast at all?

Pharisee: (*threatening*) He won't, if he knows what's good for him!

Peasant: What do you mean?

Narrator 8: The chief priests and the Pharisees had already given orders that if anyone knew where Jesus was, they should tell the authorities, so that they might arrest him.