

A person is standing in a dark, shadowy environment, illuminated by a vertical beam of light that descends from the top of the frame. The person is positioned on the left side of the frame, looking towards the right. The light creates a strong contrast between the illuminated area and the surrounding darkness.

THE GOSPEL OF  
**JOHN**

**The Light Shines  
in the Darkness**

CHAPTER 18:1-28

**“Hearts Revealed in a Crisis”**

## John 18

<sup>1</sup> After saying these things, Jesus crossed the Kidron Valley with his disciples and entered a [garden] (grove of olive trees). <sup>2</sup> Judas, the betrayer, knew this place, because Jesus had often gone there with his disciples.



## John 18

<sup>3</sup> The leading priests and Pharisees had given Judas a contingent of Roman soldiers and Temple guards to accompany him. Now with blazing torches, lanterns, and weapons, they arrived at the olive grove. <sup>4</sup> Jesus fully realized all that was going to happen to him, so he stepped forward to meet them. “Who are you looking for?” he asked.

## John 18

<sup>5</sup> “Jesus the Nazarene,” they replied. “I am he,” Jesus said. (Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.) <sup>6</sup> As Jesus said “I am he,” they all drew back and fell to the ground! <sup>7</sup> Once more he asked them, “Who are you looking for?” And again they replied, “Jesus the Nazarene.”



## John 18

<sup>8</sup> “I told you that I am he,” Jesus said. “And since I am the one you want, let these others go.” <sup>9</sup> He did this to fulfill his own statement: “I did not lose a single one of those you have given me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Simon Peter drew a sword and slashed off the right ear of Malchus, the high priest’s slave.

## John 18

<sup>11</sup> But Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword back into its sheath. Shall I not drink from the cup of suffering the Father has given me?” <sup>12</sup> So the soldiers, their commanding officer, and the Temple guards arrested Jesus and tied him up. <sup>13</sup> First they took him to Annas, since he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest at that time.



## John 18

<sup>14</sup> Caiaphas was the one who had told the other Jewish leaders, “It’s better that one man should die for the people.” <sup>15</sup> Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did another of the disciples. That other disciple was acquainted with the high priest, so he was allowed to enter the high priest’s courtyard with Jesus.

## John 18

<sup>16</sup> Peter had to stay outside the gate. Then the disciple who knew the high priest spoke to the woman watching at the gate, and she let Peter in. <sup>17</sup>

The woman asked Peter, “You’re not one of that man’s disciples, are you?” “No,” he said, “I am not.”

<sup>18</sup> Because it was cold, the household servants and the guards had made a charcoal fire.



## John 18

They stood around it, warming themselves, and Peter stood with them, warming himself. <sup>19</sup> Inside, the high priest began asking Jesus about his followers and what he had been teaching them. <sup>20</sup> Jesus replied, “Everyone knows what I teach. I have preached regularly in the synagogues and the Temple, where the people gather. I have not spoken in secret.

## John 18

<sup>21</sup> Why are you asking me this question? Ask those who heard me. They know what I said.” <sup>22</sup> Then one of the Temple guards standing nearby slapped Jesus across the face. “Is that the way to answer the high priest?” he demanded. <sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, “If I said anything wrong, you must prove it. But if I’m speaking the truth, why are you beating me?”



## John 18

<sup>24</sup> Then Annas bound Jesus and sent him to Caiaphas, the high priest. <sup>25</sup> Meanwhile, as Simon Peter was standing by the fire warming himself, they asked him again, “You’re not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it, saying, “No, I am not.”

## John 18

<sup>26</sup> But one of the household slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Didn’t I see you out there in the olive grove with Jesus?” <sup>27</sup> Again Peter denied it. And immediately a rooster crowed.



## John 18

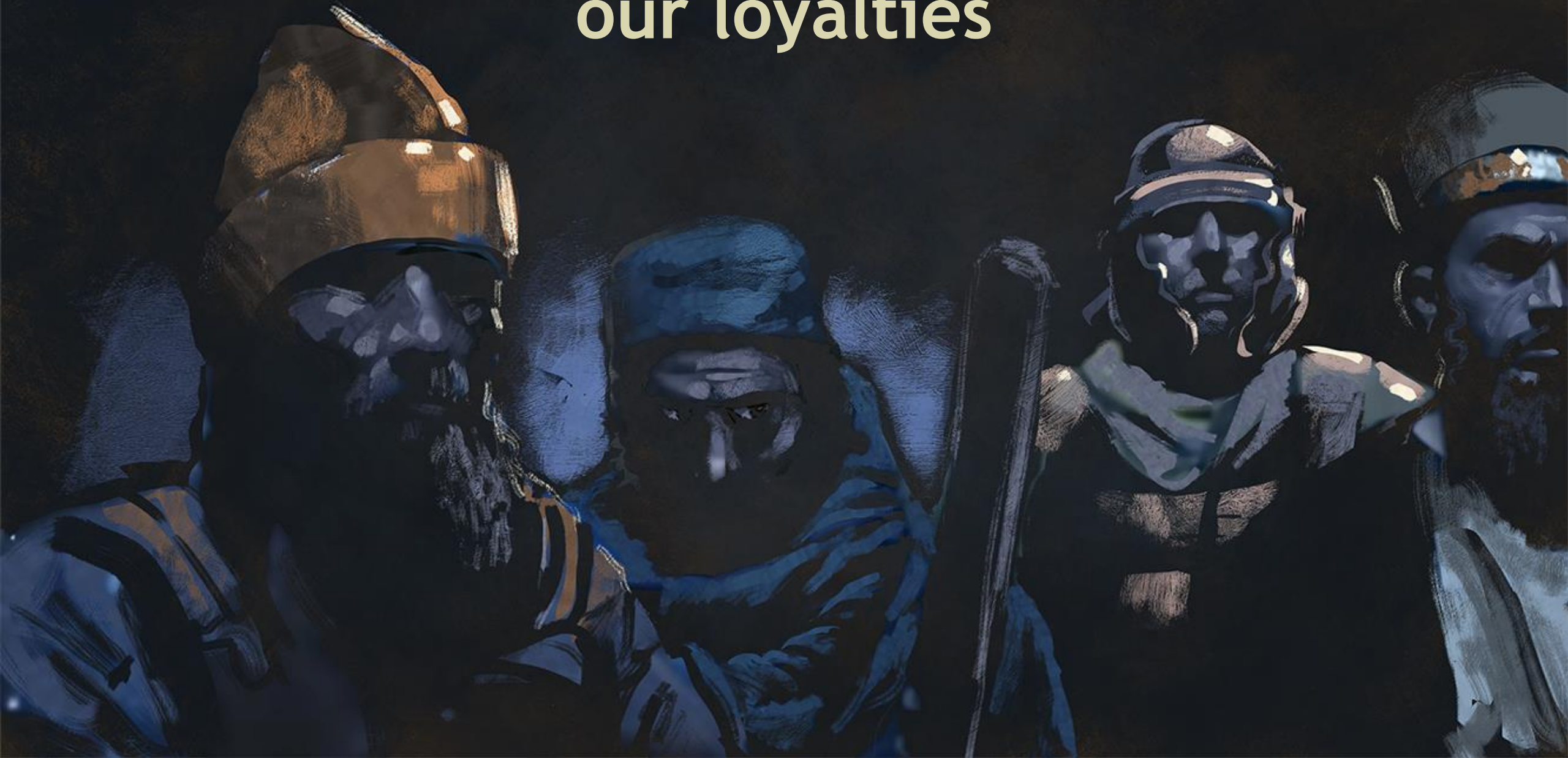
<sup>28</sup> Jesus' trial before Caiaphas ended in the early hours of the morning. Then he was taken to the headquarters of the Roman governor. His accusers didn't go inside because it would defile them, and they wouldn't be allowed to celebrate the Passover.







Difficult times can reveal  
our loyalties





**Difficult times can reveal our  
tendencies of self-reliance**





**A crisis will often bring  
hypocrisy to light**





A person stands in a dark space, illuminated by a vertical beam of light that descends from the top of the frame. The person is positioned at the bottom of the beam, looking upwards. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wall or a large object, with the light creating a strong contrast and highlighting the person's silhouette.

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