



April 19

## *Authorities Decide Jesus' Fate, but Only by God's Design*

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Doeg the Edomite...said, "I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob... Ahimelech...gave him food, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."  
The king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech" – 1 Samuel 22:9-16

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[John 11:47-57, Jerusalem and Ephraim] The chief priests therefore and the Pharisees gathered a council, and said, "What are we doing? For this man does many signs. If we leave him alone like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

But a certain one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is advantageous for us that one man should die for the people, and that

the whole nation not perish." Now he didn't say this of himself, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but that he might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day forward they took counsel that they might put him to death. Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews, but departed from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim. He stayed there with his disciples.

1. Who told the Pharisees? Why? How was Jesus' execution justified? Do you justify evil?
  
2. What did the Pharisees admit? How was Jesus like David? Where is your "Ephraim"?
  
3. Jesus, how can I thank you for dying for me? Please forgive me for justifying things I...