**The Truth of the Matter**

**John 18:28-19:16 / February 25, 2024**

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**Jesus establishes an upside-down Kingdom. We are a city on a hill…a lamp on a stand.**

**Understanding the scene and the narrative**

**The Players:**

* High Priests
* Sanhedrin
* Temple Guard
* Pilate
* Herod
* Roman Guards

**The Sequence:**

* Arrest
* Mock Trial at Annas’ house
* From Annas to Caiaphas’s house for “Legal” Trial
* Spat on and beaten
* From Caiaphas to Pilate
* From Pilate to Herod
* From Herod back to Pilate
* Flogging
* Crucifixion

**The Point:**

* Jesus leads the way for us into his own (Ephesians 2:10)
* In the hour when darkness reigns, God is still sovereign
* Jesus has defined life in his Kingdom through his “manifesto,” the Sermon on the Mount

**Conclusion**

* The city on a hill in Mexico wasn’t the actual city on the hill
* The Kingdom of Heaven begins in small and obscure ways and grows to fill the whole earth with His Glory
* God lit a lamp – and it’s the Church