The Schemes of Men and the Plan of God

John 11:45-57

John 3:36

Luke 11:23

Proverbs 19:21

I. Evil schemes are worked for good to accomplish God’s plan. (v. 45-53)

“But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.” (John 5:17-18; 7:1, 12-13, 20, 43; 8:48, 52, 59; 9:16, 22; 10:19-21, 31; 11:36-37; Luke 4:16-31; 11:15; 12:51; 16:31; Matthew 9:34; 12:24; 13:54-58; 15:1-9; John 5:17-18)

“Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many miracles.” (John 12:19)

“If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.” (Luke 19:10; John 3:17; Revelation 20:1-6; Matthew 23:37-39)

“Caiaphas…it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.” (John 3:14-15; Romans 3:25-26; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 2:9; 1 Peter 1:20; 2:24; 1 John 2:2; Revelation 13:8; Acts 2:23; Isaiah 53:4-6)

“And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad” (Jeremiah 23:3; Ezekiel 34:13; Ephesians 2:11-22; John 1:29; 3:16; Isaiah 49:6; John 10:16; Genesis 50:20)

II. Evil schemes cannot thwart God’s plan. (v. 54-57)

“Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews” (John 7:8, 30, 44; 8:20; 10:17-18; 11:9-10)

“but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples.” (Joshua 15:9; 2 Chronicles 13:19; Luke 17:11-19:28)

“Passover… many went out of the country up to Jerusalem before the passover, to purify themselves.” (John 2:13; 6:4; 18:28; Exodus 19:10-11; Numbers 9:6-11; 2 Chronicles 30:13-20; Nehemiah 9:6-14)

“if any man knew where he were, he should shew it, that they might take him.” (John 19:15)