

# INCONVENIENT TRUTH

John 11:45-57

Introduction:

## 1. The Miracle

A) Jesus' promise

> This sickness will not end in death (John 11:4)

How do you know if a prophet really speaks for God? (Deut 18:21-22)

B) Jesus' prayer

> A prayer intent upon revealing God's glory revealed in Jesus (John 11:41-42)

C) Jesus' power

> A man who had been dead for four days responds to the authoritative voice of Jesus who is the resurrection and the life (John 11:43-44)

## 2. The Impact of the Miracle

A) Many "of the Jews" believed (John 11:45)

> Other religious leaders, besides Nicodemus believed (John 7:47-52)

> What is unique about their belief?

That a miracle had happened? (John 11:47-48)

That Jesus was sent from God

The answer to Jesus prayer (John 11:42d)

> Is this belief complete or sufficient for salvation?

Remember Jesus' words to others who "believed" (John 8:30-33)

Remember Thomas' growth in belief (John 20:24-25)

B) Some believed a miracle took place ... but refused to attach significance to it.

> They believed Lazarus was raised from the dead but they don't follow Jesus (John 11:46)

C) The council – Sanhedrin, was convened to handle a crisis

> What caused a crisis?

> Who is the Sanhedrin?

> What was at the root of the Sanhedrin's crisis and conflict with Jesus?  
Jesus, the Messiah, threatened the Sadducees political power  
Jesus, the Son of God, threatened the Pharisees religious authority

D) Caiaphas the high priest determines a course of action (John 11:49-53)

> On the surface this course of action seems ridiculous

> Beneath the surface we see at least two reasons why killing Jesus made sense

The greatest threat to religion is Jesus Christ

This has been the #1 objective of Satan from the beginning

D) Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews (John 11:54)

> God in His grace had revealed His Son to the Jews and they did not receive Him (John 1:10-11)

> God, in accordance with His plan, in removes the revelation of His grace because of the hardness of their hearts (Heb 3:12-14)

> Jesus, according to His plan, waits until Passover to lay His life down (John 12:1)

1. Consider the fallacy that miracles – and more miracles, will produce faith in people

2. Consider the folly of fighting against God and His plan

3. There are many times in our lives when the truth is inconvenient for us