

# John 11:57

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a commandment, that, if any man knew where he were, he should shew it, that they might take him.

## Analysis

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The Sanhedrin issues official orders: anyone knowing Jesus' location must report it for arrest. This demonstrates escalating persecution—from debate to conspiracy to manhunt. The commandment corrupts justice, requiring citizens to betray a teacher. This totalitarian demand previews future Christian persecution. The order also demonstrates the council's fear and desperation—they recognize their inability to control Jesus without public cooperation. Their edict sets the stage for Judas' betrayal, showing how institutional corruption enables individual sin.

## Historical Context

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The Sanhedrin could issue binding religious edicts with civil enforcement power. This manhunt explains the disciples' fear and Jesus' strategic movements in the following chapters.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does institutional corruption create environments enabling individual sin?
2. What does the Sanhedrin's desperate manhunt reveal about their fear of truth?
3. When have you witnessed authorities demanding cooperation in opposing God's truth?

## Interlinear Text

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δεδώκεισαν	δὲ	καὶ	οἱ	ἀρχιερεῖς	καὶ	οἱ	Φαρισαῖοι
had given	Now	and	G3588	the chief priests	and	G3588	the Pharisees
G1325	G1161	G2532		G749	G2532		G5330
ἐντολὴν	ἴνα	έάν	τις	γνῶ	ποῦ	ἐστιν	μηνύσῃ
a commandment	that	if	any man	knew	where	he were	he should shew
G1785	G2443	G1437	G5100	G1097	G4226	G2076	G3377
ἵπως	πιάσωσιν	αὐτόν					
it that	they might take	him					
G3704	G4084	G846					

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