

# Luke 24:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

## Analysis

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**The chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death** (παρέδωκαν αὐτὸν... εἰς κρίμα θανάτου, paredōkan auton... eis krima thanatou)—The verb paradidōmi (delivered/handed over) carries profound theological weight throughout the Passion narrative. The same word describes Judas's betrayal (22:48), the Father's sovereignty (Acts 2:23), and Christ's self-offering (Galatians 2:20).

**Our rulers** (οἱ ἄρχοντες ἡμῶν, hoi archontes hēmōn) indicts the Sanhedrin leadership, yet the possessive 'our' reveals the disciples' continuing Jewish identity and communal grief. They witnessed their own religious establishment—those expected to recognize Messiah—orchestrate His execution. The passive construction **to be condemned** acknowledges Roman complicity while emphasizing Jewish initiative, fulfilling Jesus' prediction (18:31-33).

## Historical Context

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The Sanhedrin lacked authority to execute capital punishment under Roman occupation (John 18:31), necessitating Pilate's involvement. Crucifixion was a Roman method; Jewish execution was stoning. This collaboration between religious and political powers fulfilled Psalm 2:2—'the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and his Anointed.'

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the disciples' phrase 'our rulers' reflect the painful betrayal of spiritual leadership?
2. What does the passive voice 'delivered him' suggest about God's sovereignty in Christ's crucifixion?
3. How should believers respond when religious authorities contradict Scripture?

## Interlinear Text

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ὅπως τε παρέδωκαν αὐτόν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ  
**And how** G3704 G5037 **delivered him** **him** G3588 **the chief priests** **and** G3588  
G3860 G846 G749 G2532

ἄρχοντες ἡμῶν εἰς κρίμα θανάτου καὶ ἐσταύρωσαν  
**rulers** G758 **our** G2257 **to** G1519 **be condemned** G2917 **to death** G2288 **and** G2532 **have crucified** G4717

αὐτόν  
**him**  
G846

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 27:20** (Parallel theme): But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus.

**Luke 23:13** (Parallel theme): And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

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