

THE GOSPEL OF MARK: HIS BETRAYAL

MARK 14:32-42

- **Luke 21:37 & John 18:2** teach us this was a common place for Jesus and the disciples to retreat.
- **Luke 22:43-44** "And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground."
- **John 12:27-28** "Now is My soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."
- Perhaps Jesus call Simon out because of his bold allegiance to Jesus that evening?
- "He (Peter) is willing to fight with a physical sword for Jesus but too sleepy to fight with spiritual weapons of war . . . We are called to pray like Jesus but typically wind up praying like Peter."
- "'Abba' is an Aramaic term of endearment that the Jews generally felt too 'familiar' to use in reference to God." Vine says, "'Abba' is the word framed by the lips of infants, and betokens unreasoning trust."
- Like Jesus, when times are dark, we pray all the more. We have learned to lean on God, not man.

MARK 14:43-52 And immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize Him and lead Him away under guard." And when he came, he went up to Him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed Him. And they laid hands on Him and seized Him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture Me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left Him and fled. And a young man followed Him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

- An attempt to harmonize: Judas leads the group to Jesus. Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss. Jesus responds, "Would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss? Friend, do what you came to do." Jesus addresses the crowd. Identifies Himself. They draw back and fall to the ground. They come to take Him away. Jesus calls out the crowd. (**Luke 22:53** "But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.") He requests that the others be let go. Peter draws his sword and cuts off Malchus' ear. Jesus tells Peter to put his sword away - Jesus could call for angels if He needed that. Jesus heals Malchus. They take Him away. They all flee. A young man escapes as well (some think it's John Mark, I'm not sure).
- It's hard to admit, but we've all kissed Christ on the cheek in our own way.

MARK 14:53-65 And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against Him, saying, "We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have You no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against You?" But He remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked Him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard His blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned Him as deserving death. And some began to spit on Him and to cover His face and to strike Him, saying to Him, "Prophecy!" And the guards received Him with blows.

- **John 18:12-14, 19-24** tells us about Jesus first going to Annas - the father-in-law of Caiaphas. Apparently the Jews considered him the legitimate High Priest, because Caiaphas was appointed "officially" by Rome.
- Jesus was falsely accused and they couldn't get their stories straight. Jesus wasn't interested in defending Himself (**Isaiah 53:7**), but He didn't shy away from who He was - the Christ. This is a clear reference to Messianic prophecy (**Daniel 7:13; Psalm 110:1**).

MARK 14:66-72 And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And he broke down and wept.

- It is very difficult to harmonize Matthew, Mark, Luke & John. There are two scenes taking place simultaneously: Jesus' illegal trial and Peter's denial. It's kind of a soap-opera effect. Study them on your own. Reality is that you have several individuals present. Some perhaps speaking and charging Peter simultaneously.
- **Luke 22:61** "And the Lord turned and looked at Peter." Peter would never be the same again.