

## Jesus Willingly Gives Himself For Sacrifice (John 18:1-14)

### I. Jesus Goes Out to Meet His Betrayer (1-3)

#### A. Jesus and the Disciples go to the Garden (1-2)

1. After Jesus finished teaching the disciples and praying, he went out to meet His fate
2. The garden at the Mount of Olives was where Jesus often went to pray with the disciples
  - a. This night will be different
  - b. This night will be the night of his betrayal

#### B. Judas Brings Men to Arrest Jesus (3)

1. Judas was well aware of Jesus' frequent garden spot
2. Judas had left the Passover meal and apparently went straight to the officials
3. The Greek text intimates that it was a mixture of Roman and Jewish Temple Police who came to arrest Him
  - a. Here we see even those who are enemies with each other come together to oppose Christ
  - b. Even clashing worldviews will unite when it comes to snuffing out the light of truth
  - c. In our own lives we often unite ourselves to the very enemies we desperately pray that Christ would save us from.

### II. Jesus Demonstrates His Authority (4-6)

#### A. Jesus Identifies Himself as God (4-5)

1. Jesus Asks the Purpose of the soldier's presence (4)
  - a. Notice that Jesus knows "all things" that were coming upon him.
  - b. He knew why they were there and he was prepared to go with them all the way to the cross
  - c. Jesus did not get taken by surprise as they came to arrest Him – He was expecting it
  - d. He asks who they are looking for
2. Jesus Identifies Himself as the "I am" (5)
  - a. The soldiers answered, "Jesus of Nazareth"
  - b. Although this was certainly who He was, Nazareth may have been intended as an insult to Him. It was a very lowly place to hail from.
    - i. They didn't ask for the teacher, or the Rabbi – only Jesus the man from Nazareth
    - ii. They had come to end Him
  - c. Jesus simply answered them, "I am"
    - i. Almost every English translation adds "he" to make Jesus' words proper grammatically. However Jesus simply said, "I am"

- ii. Many times in John we have seen Jesus use the diving name "I AM" (Εγώ εἰμι) of himself
- iii. Here Jesus uses it in such a way that we will see the soldiers themselves fall backward at the very mention of it.
- iv. Jesus will give His life to them willingly – they do not possess the power to take Him against His will. With a word He is able to toss them all to the ground

B. Jesus' Enemies Fall Before His Name (5b-6)

1. Judas Stands with the Enemies of Christ (5b)

- a. John doesn't mention the kiss of betrayal (or many other events at Jesus' arrest) because the other gospel writers have already covered those things in great detail
- b. John does make clear that Judas continued to stand with Christ's enemies. It could be said that Jesus kissed Judas and then stood with Him as he was arrested. John denies this. Judas was among those who fell to the ground at Jesus' name.

2. Jesus' Enemies Fall at the Power of the Name (6)

- a. Jesus will only be taken at His allowance
- b. Jesus could remedy the situation if He so chose

III. Jesus Intercedes For His Disciples (7-9)

A. Jesus Asked Them their Purpose Again (7)

- 1. What a comical scene it must have been
- 2. Jesus will go with them, but not because they say so – because His Father says so

B. Jesus Petitions for the release of His Disciples (8)

- 1. Jesus asks for his disciple's release.
- 2. Here we have a perfect picture of the gospel – Jesus steps forth and stands ready to give His life so that his disciples might go free

C. Jesus' Petition fulfills His Words (9)

IV. Jesus Submits to the Father's Perfect Will (10-14)

A. Jesus Refuses to Allow Peter to Resist (10-11)

- 1. Peter drew his sword and sliced off the ear of Malchus
  - a. Perhaps he thought since Jesus possessed the power to knock them back with a word, they would easily defeat them in battle
  - b. Peter did not want to see Jesus taken and he may have remembered his promise to die with Jesus if need be

2. Jesus Rebukes Peter for Standing Against God's Will (11)

- a. Jesus commands Peter's sword to be sheathed
- b. Jesus says He must submit to the Father's will

- c. Peter didn't understand yet, but Jesus knew what needed to happen.
  - d. Many times we think we know best and act out of good motives only to go against what God's will has ordained.
- B. Jesus Is Arrested and Taken to the Authorities (12-14)
  - 1. First he is taken to Annas the Father – in – law fo the High priest (and the previous high priest)
  - 2. Then He is taken to Caiaphas (the current High Priests)
  - 3. Caiaphas is the one who prophesied that it would be better for one man die than all the people – He was right

Jesus knew what His Father desired and he chose to fulfill that desire even though it was within his power to rebel and successfully save His life. But he calls us to give our lives and he would not even let Peter attempt to save Him. His destiny was fixed. He would be the sin of the world as the Passover lamb and there was nothing that could stop it. But he did not go involuntarily. He went of his own will, possessing the power to speak a word and topple the small force that came to arrest Him.