



“That the Scriptures Might Be Fulfilled”

Sunday, October 29, 2023 | Text: Matthew 26:47-56

Parallel Passages: Mark 14:43–50; Luke 22:47–53; John 18:1–11

1. Jesus is betrayed through self-serving false piety (vs. 47-50).

[47] While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. [48] Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” [49] And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. [50] Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

2. Jesus is not a powerless, feeble victim; He is the prophecy fulfilling victor (vs. 51-55).

[51] And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. [52] Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. [53] Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? [54] But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?” [55] At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me.

*Psalm 22; 41:9; 55:12-14; Isaiah 53:3-5, 7, 10-11; Zechariah 12–13

3. Jesus is failed by His followers who think the cost of discipleship is too high (vs. 56).

[56] But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Next Sunday’s Sermon: Matthew 26:57-68

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Discussion Questions: Why is Judas’ betrayal of Jesus so striking? What does Jesus’ response reveal? What is the danger of self-serving false piety? How is Jesus in complete control of the circumstances of His arrest? How do the other gospels shed light on this event? How is Jesus the fulfillment of the Scriptures? Why did Peter think Jesus needed help? Have you ever thought that? Why did all the disciples flee? Is there a difference between betraying Jesus and failing Him? What does following Jesus cost you? Why is it important to understand Jesus is not a victim? How does this text lead you to treasure Jesus more?

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