

## The Gospel of John: That You May Believe Jesus, The Lord over His own Betrayal

John 18:1-12

Sunday, November 5, 2017

### Introduction

In chapter 13-17 we have listened as Jesus prepared His disciples for what was to come. Now, as we come to chapter 18, the things that He had foretold begin to take place.

In chapter 18 we see the betrayal, arrest and trials of Jesus and from an outside perspective it may seem like things are out of control. The once charismatic leader has been silenced.

But what John makes clear is that through it all, Jesus never ceases to be in complete control. Even when Jesus is being led away in chains, He is the one directing every move (John 10:17-18).

### The Ways in Which John Reveals the Control of Jesus in the Garden

#### Jesus didn't hide – He went to a place where He could be found (vs. 1-2)

- When Jesus dismissed Judas from the Passover meal He knew the plan that Judas had. He knew that Judas was going to get others and that they would be coming for Him. But Jesus didn't hide; instead He went to a place where He went regularly. A place where He knew He would be found (Luke 21:37).
- Throughout His ministry there were times when people were ready to arrest Jesus, and over and over again He eluded them. Until His time came, until the appointed time, Jesus could not be touched. But now, He allowed the process to move forward (John 11:53-54; 7:30; 8:20).
- **John MacArthur** - *He is no victim. He moved to His betrayal resolutely. He moved to His arrest. He moved to His own execution. He is not trapped; He is not tricked; He is not deceived; He is not fooled; He's not surprised.*

#### Jesus didn't run – He came forward and gave Himself to the mob (vs. 3-4)

- As Judas and the soldiers came they expected a struggle. Some have suggested that the soldiers and officers numbered in the hundreds. They came with torches prepared for a search. They came with weapons prepared for a fight. But what they found was Jesus, coming forward and presenting Himself to them (John 10:17-18).

#### Jesus didn't minimize His identity – He restated His claims of Deity (vs. 4-5)

- When the mob arrived Jesus identified Himself as the one they were seeking, but He did so in a way that once again affirmed His claims of deity. Jesus used the name of God from Exodus 3, I AM.
- God used the declaration of Jesus and His claim of deity to show His power. When Jesus spoke the soldiers fell to the ground. This is proof that Jesus was very much in control of the situation.

#### Jesus didn't allow His disciples to be taken – He protected them from suffering (vs. 7-9)

- Jesus also shows His control over the situation by ensuring the safe release of His disciples. Jesus knew that if they were taken their faith would be in jeopardy, so for now He ensures they are spared from suffering. In doing so Jesus fulfills the words He spoke in John 17.

#### Jesus didn't forget His mission – He was ready to drink the cup (vs. 10-12)

- As Jesus gives Himself to the soldiers, Peter doesn't understand, He jumps up ready to defend His Lord. But Jesus reminds Peter that He is the one in control, this is part of His plan (Matthew 26:53-56).
- Jesus was prepared to do what He had come to do – drink the cup of the wrath of God on our behalf (1 John 2:1-2; Romans 3:23-25)

#### Application:

Jesus is the Lord of all things – There is nothing that is outside of His Control – Nothing

- Just as Jesus was in complete control of His betrayal and arrest, He is in complete control of our lives. He is Lord of all and He governs every aspect of our lives in order to accomplish His plan of salvation and sanctification.

Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Submission to Will of God, Even in Suffering

- The Scriptures are clear that those who follow Jesus will suffer. Jesus is our example of what it looks like to trust the will of God and be willing to suffer in order to see His plan accomplished (Philippians 2:5-8)

Jesus was Unwavering in His Commitment to Accomplishing Our Salvation