

Who is Jesus?: Betrayed John 18:1-11

18:1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. **2** Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. **3** So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. **4** Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" **5** They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. **6** When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. **7** So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." **8** Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." **9** This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." **10** Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) **11** So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

Introduction:

- **John 20:30-31**, "30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

The Time

- A) After Comforting and Instructing the Disciples (**Chps.13-17**)
 - a. Much here that equips them to lead the early church (in teaching and modeling)
 - b. John 13:31-35
 - c. Section begins with Christ's marked humility in washing their feet and prophecies of Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial, both of which we'll deal with in **chapter 18**.
 - d. Christ goes on to prepare them for the "long haul" by teaching them about abiding in Him; expecting the

world's hatred; the coming Holy Spirit who will teach and give peace; and their future certain victory. All is wrapped up in the beautiful prayer for His disciples (past present and future) in **chap. 17**.

B) The Right Time

- a. **John 7:30**, "So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come."
- b. **John 8:20**, "These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come."
- c. **John 16:1-4**, "I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. 2 They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. 3 And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. 4 But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you."
- d. **John 16:32-33**, "32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

The Place

A) The Garden

- a. **Luke 21:37**, "And every day he was teaching in the temple, but at night he went out and lodged on the mount called Olivet."
- b. **Luke 22:39**, "And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him."
- c. Judas knew it well

B) The Place of Prayer, Rest and Preparation

- a. More than an example, but an example none the less
- b. Martin Luther is widely quoted as saying; "I have so much to do that if I didn't spend at least three hours a day in prayer I would never get it all done."

The People

- A) Christ
- B) Disciples (esp. Peter)
- C) Judas
- D) Roman Soldiers
- E) Priest's Servants (esp. Malchus)

The Purpose

- A) Exercise His Authority (**v.4a**)
 - a. **John 10:17-18**, *"17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."*
 - b. John's gospel focuses on the deity of Christ – this is why there are so many references to His authority, beginning with **John 1:1**
- B) Establish His Identity (**vv.4b-7**)
 - a. 3x "I am He" (may or may not hold greater weight as "I AM" statements – ambiguous)
 - b. Absence of Judas' kiss – this story is not about Judas, it is about Christ!
 - c. Authority over the rule of men (**v.6**) – for all to see
- C) Fulfill His Promises (**vv.8-9**)
 - a. An act of Love for His sheep
 - b. Means & end of **John 17:12**
 - c. Physical symbol of the spiritual promise (**John 10:11,15,17-18,28**)
 - d. As in the Scriptures

- i. **Judas: John 13:21-30**, *"21 After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.' 22 The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. 23 One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table close to Jesus, 24 so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. 25 So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, 'Lord, who is it?' 26 Jesus answered, 'It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it.' So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. 27 Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, 'What you are going to do, do quickly.' 28 Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. 29 Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, 'Buy what we need for the feast,' or that he should give something to the poor. 30 So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night."*
 - ii. **Disciples: Acts 1:15-17**, *"15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, 16 'Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. 17 For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'" (Ps.69,109)*
 - iii. **Church: Acts 4:27-28**, *"27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place."*
- D) Suffering (**vv.10-11**)
 - a. Supernatural in Scope (Peter's brave and ignorant reaction)
 - b. The Cup / His portion (**v.11**)
 - c. **Matt.26:39-40**, *"39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you*

will." **40** And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour?"

d. Sanctifying work of Priest and Sacrifice

i. Isolation

ii. Self-preparation

iii. Preparation to "bear" the sins of the people

1. **Heb.2:17-18**, "**17** Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. **18** For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted."
2. **Heb.4:14-16**, "**14** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. **16** Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
3. **Heb.5:1-3**, "**5:1** For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. **2** He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. **3** Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people."
4. **Heb.7:23-27**, "**23** The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, **24** but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. **25** Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. **26** For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high

priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. **27** He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself."

- iv. In what appears to be a weaker event for Christ, there are great examples of His authority, which again bears witness that it is by His authority we are saved and kept

Conclusion

- A) Believer, here is your Priest doing some of that secret work necessary to relieve you of your sin-guilt.
- B) Are you practically like Judas? Are you counted among Christ's friends or enemies?
- C) Are you practically like Peter? Are you living in ignorance believing yourself to be courageous, but really only depending on your own strength?
- D) Unbeliever, though your sin is great, Jesus' suffering for sinners is greater and His blood deeper. Trust in this Christ who has done everything necessary for His sheep to be His own! Repent and have faith in His promises, and be counted among His friends!