
THE GOSPEL OF
JOHN
PART FORTY-NINE
The Word Made Flesh




This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

# JOHN 18:1-11

## The Arrest of the Savior Part 2

1. Jesus is Betrayed (vv.1-3)

a. Jesus leads the disciples to a garden (Gethsemane; Matt 26:36-46)

b. John is the only Gospel writer who mentions a garden as the place of the arrest; it is one of his theological themes depicting Jesus as the Lamb of God who has come to take away sin.



c. Judas meets them in the garden (vv.2-3)

d. The Word of God has much to say about stumbling blocks



# 2. Whom Do You Seek? (vv.4-9)

a. Jesus has warned and prepared the disciples for this moment, though proper preparation does not always equal a quality performance



b. He comes to this moment courageously, though not without challenge and struggle (John 10:18)

i. The lesson from this I think most appropriate for our time is that just because things happen without incident or "go off without a hitch" are not default indications that God is in it--He certainly could be, but not necessarily so.



ii. As a matter of fact the opposite is often true; the miracle is in the fact that God decides to use us and still gets glory out of our imperfections; we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the excellency may of God and not of us (2Cor 4:7)



iii. What we see here is courage after the struggle--boldness after the battle of the will

iv. Which says to us that the goal of life is not to never get knocked down (it's sure to happen), but to make sure you get up off the mat by submitting to the will of the Father.



c. In verse 4, John uses a strange choice of words as the phrase "upon Him" seems unnatural; yet John is teaching us doctrine in his word selection.

i. He sees Jesus as the one bearing all things--literally the weight of the world, on His proverbial shoulders

ii. John 1:29

iii. Isa 53:3-5



d. John again mentions Judas' presence and role in all of this to help us see what Jesus sees (v.5)

i. At first glance, it appears to be a military showdown and a political confrontation



ii. As a leader of 12 (now 11) men who has attracted crowds in the thousands, and has performed feats unlike that the world has ever seen, Jesus' revolutionary group is seen as a militaristic threat



iii. As someone who regularly incites crowds to act in contrast to the traditional teachings of the aristocracy and political brass, Jesus is also a political threat…

(1) He teaches people to live beyond the human constructed binaries of love those who love you back

(2) Beyond--If someone gouges your eye, you gouge theirs in response



(3) Beyond--Pray for the destruction of your enemy

(4) Beyond--Protect and associate only with the people who think and look like you

(5) But instead, He pushes them to love their enemies and pray for those who have it out for them



iv. However, John helps us see what Jesus sees via Judas, and contrastingly what others do not see

(1) Judas represents the true enemy, and is in control of the entire opposition

(2) John 13:2 tells us that Satan had already put betrayal into Judas' heart, let's us see who is really in control



(3) This is a word most appropriate for this moment we are in, because everyone is glued to media looking at wins and losses in colors of red and blue, and certainly we are thankful for the privilege of those who votes now count, whereas in historic past they did not



(4) But Judas stands with the military and the officers as the paramount reminder that we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but principalities of spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph 6:12)



(5) So John says, I want you to see what Jesus sees, which everyone else misses--the disciples missed it, we know Peter misses it based upon what he does later with the sword, but John doesn't want his readers to miss it

(6) Jesus essentially says--I am the One you are looking for



## e. I AM He (v.6)

i. While this is not officially what we consider an "I AM" statement, it provides a dramatic culmination to the previous statements mentioned in the Gospel.



ii. Something in the way in which Jesus says "I AM He" exudes a supernatural force and authority to the point that the men (600+) stepped back and fell to the ground

iii. This says that Jesus does not submit Himself in powerlessness but in obedience to the mission



# Philippians 2:8

"Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

