

I Believe: The Case for Well-Informed Faith

The Sin of Expediency in the Arrest of Jesus

John 18:1–27

The Lord's Day Morning

March 20, 2022

Expediency descends from a word that means “to set free,” and so it came to mean the quality of being advantageous or advisable to a process that leads to some desired end. It is not always sinful to be expedient. When the means and the ends are pleasing to God, being expedient is good stewardship. It is only wise for a farmer to expedite plowing and planting to feed his family and his neighbors. But expediency becomes sin when the *ends* or the *means* is unjust. This morning's text focuses on the most egregious case of sinful expediency in history: The arrest of Jesus.

1. Judas: To gain _____ security (ends), I will _____ Jesus (means)
2. Caiaphas: To retain _____ power (ends), I will _____ Jesus (means).
3. Peter: To win _____ approval (ends), I will _____ Jesus (means).