

Pray like it depends on God...  
Act like it depends on you.

John 18:1-14

## Divine Intervention

- In John's Gospel we read that when they asked who was Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus stepped forward and said "I am".
- This was not just a normal statement. This was a clear divine statement from God Himself.

- As Jesus stepped forward and the guards came to arrest Him, they were blown backward and knocked to the ground like a sonic boom.
- The “I am” statement that John gives us is a direct reference to the Moses and the burning bush encounter in Exodus 3:14, “Ehyeh Asheh Ehyeh”.

# Theophany

This is when God appears in a visual, audible or physical manner.

## Old and New Testament Fulfillment

- Jesus did this so that none of His disciples would be lost. He did not want a physical altercation. He wanted to make sure the scriptures would be fulfilled (John 6 and 17), where He prays and professes protection over His disciples.

- Also, Jesus fulfills Exodus 12 in becoming the sacrificial lamb, rendering himself seemingly powerless in a moment of great peril.
- Then, He is also fulfilling the levitical “Peace Offering” pledge that the people would offer to atone for their sins.

# Spiritual Meaning

1. Judas was Jesus's betrayer and it was meant for him to fulfill this order, which seems very unfair to him from our vantage point. However, when we see Judas, it is a great reminder that he represents us as well, as sinners who have betrayed the Lord in our sinful state and are in need of forgiveness and mercy. We are sinners just like Judas when we disobey God and return to selfishness, as part of the human condition. May the Lord be patient in our failures.

2. Peter was anxious and zealous for the Lord by resorting to physical violence. His actions preempted the angry mob and almost interfered with God's plan. Nonetheless, Jesus stepped in and rectified the situation by healing Malchus's ear. We must remain in subjection to Jesus as our Master and leader. We are not to get ahead of Jesus in our everyday efforts or trials, even when it looks like it is our only course of action. Sometimes it is better to wait and see what Jesus has in store.

**3. This evil was done under the cover of night. Let us remain children of light, not allowing the wicked thoughts, temptations, and plans to have their way in our lives.**

**We must fight hard to submit only to the will of God in our lives and not to the world. Remain in the Light.**

4. The disciples fled when Jesus was arrested. May we be prepared and willing to go the distance for Jesus when called upon, remaining faithful and strong in our faith, until the end.

Lord, help us to never leave your side, especially when you call upon us.