

## 耶稣被捕，孤单且坚定——马可福音 14:43-52

### Jesus Arrested, Lonely yet Resolute—Mark 14:43-52

#### *Introduction and Outline*

- Scripture Reading: Mark 14:43-52; Psalm 55  
**Mark 14:43-52** (NASB1995)  
43 Immediately while He was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs, who were from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. 44 Now he who was betraying Him had given them a signal, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the one; seize Him and lead Him away under guard.” 45 After coming, Judas immediately went to Him, saying, “Rabbi!” and kissed Him. 46 They laid hands on Him and seized Him. 47 But one of those who stood by drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. 48 And Jesus said to them, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me, as you would against a robber? 49 Every day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me; but this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures.” 50 And they all left Him and fled. 51 A young man was following Him, wearing nothing but a linen sheet over his naked body; and they \*seized him. 52 But he pulled free of the linen sheet and escaped naked.
- Have you ever felt so lonely, as if the whole world is against you in some ways? The hymn "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" has a line that says "friends thro' fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress". Being betrayed or attacked by both friends and foes. This scene of Jesus' arrest not only shows us the kind of extreme loneliness as being abandoned by everyone, but also the resolute steadfastness of Jesus even in the loneliest moment, that He never wavers from seeking the Father's pleasure and obeying the Father's will.
- Jesus had just finished praying in Gethsemane (verses 32-42). The reason He could be so firmly steadfast in this scene is because he had clearly received the Father's will and the strength to do His will from His earnest prayer.
- Outline:  
Title: Jesus Arrested, Lonely yet Resolute—Mark 14:43-52
  1. Attack of the Crowd (v.43)
  2. Betrayal of Judas (vv. 44-46)
  3. Impulsiveness of Peter (v.47)
  4. Resoluteness of Jesus (vv.48-49)
  5. Desertion of the Disciples (vv.50-52)

#### **Attack of the Crowd (v.43)**

- “Immediately while He was still speaking”: The enemy came while He was still speaking. The Father had given Jesus just enough time to prepare Himself by prayer.
- “Judas, one of the twelve, came up”: The emphasis is on the fact that he was one of the twelve, so we may feel the shock of this betrayal. The traitor turned out to be from those twelve disciples whom Jesus loved and treated most favorably.

【Consider】 When the disciples followed Jesus, Judas also followed Jesus; when the disciples read the Bible and prayed, he also read the Bible and prayed; when the disciples saw Jesus calm the storm, he was also in the boat; when the disciples enjoyed the bread and fish that Jesus created from nothing, he also saw this miracle with his own eyes and tasted the grace of God with his own mouth; when Jesus sent the disciples out two by two, Judas was among them; when the disciples preached the good news of the Kingdom, Judas also preached the good news of the Kingdom; when Jesus gave authority to the disciples to perform miracles, heal the sick, and cast out demons as a witness to the gospel, Judas no doubt also temporarily obtained this authority to perform miracles, heal the sick, and cast out demons as a witness to the gospel ..... However, when Jesus no longer did things according to his ideas, when the cost of following Jesus became higher and higher, the road became harder and harder, and the enemies became greater and greater, Judas' selfish fantasy about Jesus finally collapsed. But until this moment, no one could see the reality of Judas for what he truly was. He had always been “one of the twelve” disciples.

- "a crowd with swords and clubs...": John 18:3 says that Judas led "a company of soldiers", a term referring to a 600-man cohort in the Roman army. They mobilized such a large troop, obviously considering Jesus as an extremely dangerous rebel.
- 【Reality】 In fact, they didn't need any sword or club. Jesus would simply surrender himself this time, for he knew the time set by the Father had come. He would be led to the place of slaughter silently like a lamb (Isaiah 53:7).

### **Betrayal of Judas (vv.44-46)**

- "Now he who was betraying Him had given them a signal": They needed a secret code because: 1. The Roman soldiers were not familiar with Jesus' appearance; 2. It was dark at night; 3. Jesus wore simple dresses and could not be identified by His attire (contrasting those false religious leaders who loved to show off their appearance, see Matthew 23:5).
- "Whomever I kiss, He is the one": Of all the possible codes, Judas somehow chose the most loving gesture of a kiss, the way best friends greeted each other at that time! I cannot think of a more disgusting code than this.

【Speculation】 Perhaps this loving expression can bring a kind of false comfort to his panic-stricken conscience? After all, Jesus was his teacher for three years. Before officially breaking the relationship, he might just throw Him a kiss to thank Him for caring for him in the past three years? Maybe doing so can make his burning conscience feel a little better?

- "kissed him": The original text here is more intense and can be translated as "passionately or repeatedly kissed him". Some say this is to give the soldiers enough time to confirm identity, but I think Judas is completely out of control here and is completely controlled by Satan.

**John 13:27** "After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”!”

**Proverbs 27:6** "Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy."

【Principle】 All false believers are professional actors. On the surface, they show all kinds of acts of loyalty and love for the Lord, but inside is hidden a heart that disdains the Lord. Just like Judas, the

ultimate object of love in the hearts of all false believers is not the Lord at all, but their own personal interests. When Jesus no longer gives them what they want, they reveal their true colors, showing that everything they did before was but a big fake show.

*"They outwardly feign allegiance to Christ but who at heart are His enemies. They identify themselves with the church for many different reasons, but all of the reasons are self-serving. Whether it is to get ahead in business by appearing respectable, to gain social acceptance by being religious, to salve a guilty conscience by means of pretended righteousness, or to accomplish any other purpose, the underlying motive always is to serve and please self, not God." - One pastor*

### **Impulsiveness of Peter (v.47)**

- "But one of those who stood by...": Of course, you know who this one is. Who is it that always acted in such an impulsive, brainless, and quick-tempered way? Of course it was Peter, the hot-blooded young man. (See John 18:10)
- "drew his sword, ... and cut off his ear": Peter probably swung the sword at Malchus' neck, but he was just a fisherman with limited sword-waging skills, so Malchus dodged and saved his head, only losing an ear.
- "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matthew 26:52-53): The weapons of spiritual warfare are not swords, guns, or clubs; if they were, Jesus would've sent angels to rescue Him out of their hands. But this is not how God's Kingdom works. It is not by sword, nor by any impulsive or feisty way of the flesh. All kinds of fierce words and tough attitudes have no use on the battlefield of God's Kingdom.

*"The cause of truth does not need force to maintain it. False religions ... have often been spread by the sword. False Christianity ... has often been enforced on men by bloody persecutions. But the real Gospel of Christ requires no such aids as these. It stands by the power of the Holy Ghost. It grows by the hidden influence of the Holy Ghost on men's hearts and consciences. There is no clearer sign of a bad cause in religion than a readiness to appeal to the sword." - One pastor*

**【Note】** It's not just the sword of metal, but also the sword of flesh—bitter and cursing words, harsh and impulsive ways of doing things, all of which are signs of a bad religion! Impulsiveness is the most typical manifestation of the flesh, which is often found in zealous but immature Christians. Like three-year-olds, they have yet to learn to control their emotions.

**【Principle】** Impulsiveness not only drives you forward, but it can also drive you backward. When you feel good, you rush forward, and when you feel bad, you immediately fall backward. That's what Peter did, isn't it?

### **Resoluteness of Jesus (vv.48-49)**

- "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me, as you would against a robber?": Robbers do their evil deeds in the dark. They're good at hiding so you need a surprise attack to catch them by force. Is Jesus that kind of sneaky person?

- "Every day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me": Why then do you arrest me now in such a way?
- "but this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures": The ultimate reason is God's sovereign will. Here, "Scriptures" does not refer to any specific prophecy, but the prophecies of the Old Testament as a whole that the Messiah would be betrayed, suffer, and die to atone for sin.

【Principle】 The principle of "this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures" applies to everything in everyone's life. Do you have some Scriptures in your heart to strengthen your faith and courage in difficult times? This will determine whether you will endure temptation faithfully like Jesus did, or you'll panic and fall like the faithless disciples did.

### **Desertion of the Disciples (vv. 50-52)**

- "And they all left Him and fled": Just as Jesus predicted in verse 27.

【Lesson】 They did not take Jesus' word seriously, nor did they pray watchfully. A Christian who neglects Bible reading and prayer is certainly one of very weak faith. A little pressure from the environment, and he'll fall into sin very quickly.

*"The believer who fails to saturate himself in God's Word and to have fellowship in God's presence becomes a captive of circumstances. His thinking is based on the emotions of the moment, and his actions are based on the impulses of the moment."* - One pastor

- "A young man ... he pulled free of the linen sheet and escaped naked": The point here is to highlight Jesus' loneliness. All of the disciples have fled, and now, even an unknown young follower ended up fleeing naked under the persecution of the enemies.

### *Summary*

*This was Jesus' loneliest moment. The crowd attacked him, Judas betrayed him, Peter misunderstood him, and the disciples abandoned him... He was alone in the hands of the enemies, with no one beside to comfort him or support him... Yet, even in such an environment, Jesus stood firm to fulfill all God's will for him with resolute steadfastness and offered the perfect sin offering for us. Therefore, our salvation really does have a solid and unshakable foundation.*