

I. Show of Force - John 18:1-3

1. "These words" (**verse 1**)
 - Rea -the verse segues to the "garden"
 - "went forth" - "entered" tracks the action here
 2. The "brook" lay between the temple and the Mt of Olives - Cedron
 3. The "garden" is Gethsemane - see Mt. 26:36
 4. Judas knew the place because Jesus and disciples went there "ofttimes" (**verse 2**)
 5. "Judas" and the "band" came there (**verse 3**)
 - "band" could be as many as 600
 - officers
 - chief priests
 - Pharisees
 6. Came with lanterns and torches and weapons
 - anticipated resistance?
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. So here is a "disciple" with the enemies of Jesus - that's how they "found" Him and took Him
 2. A chosen time? - just when Jesus was stranded away from peoples?
 3. Was the prayer in the garden now or was that another time?
 - arrested while in prayer time?

II. Positive Identification - John 18:4-9

1. Jesus knew but says - who do you seek? (**Verse 4**)
2. Whom do you seek? (**Verse 5**)
 - Rea -ponder the irony - He knew them, but they did not Him
 - Rea -why did He make them name their intent?
3. Note that Judas is pointed out in this verse
 - at Mt. 26:48 the prearranged "sign" was a kiss
- Rea -what a liar! - usually we trust those who kiss us
4. They seek a man from Nazareth - not the Lord, or the Messiah - or the one who claims to be the Messiah
 - A. Jesus' response was immediate and to the point - "I am he"
 - Rea B. In no way did He seek to avoid being taken - He understood that being crucified was a part of God's will for His life
5. They fall backward (**verse 6**)
 - His words overwhelmed them
 - they ask for further affirmation that He was the one they sought (**verse 7**)
 - the response is the same
- Rea -falling backward shows some measure of confusion in their ranks
6. Let these others go (**verse 8**)
 - He places Himself in their custody
 - let them go... which fulfills the idea that He lost none
 - in so doing He preserves their safety

Rea -some see “He lost none” to mean they were the “chosen” ones... here the idea is that He lost none through imprisonment or death

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. If Jesus knew why they came why didn't He run?
2. The mob seems a bit reluctant to take Him... more reluctant than they were to actually take Him
3. Was Jesus a stranger to them? - “a man from Nazareth”
 -what does that mean?
4. I've heard it taught and preached that Jesus did not “resist evil” -discuss what that means and how that works out in our lives - should we simply allow people to crucify us?

III. Rebellion Snuffed - John 18:10-11

1. Peter drew a sword (**verse 10**)
 -cut of a servant's ear - Malchus
 -Peter had claimed that he would die for Jesus - Mt. 26:35
 -Jesus stopped a time of bloodshed by stopping Peter
2. Put up your sword (**verse 11**)
3. Jesus' reasoning - this is the cup that God has given me... shall I not drink it
- Rea 4. Previously (?) Jesus had prayed “not my will but thine” - so, He understands this as God's will?
 -He had prayed in the garden that the cup might pass from Him - so in His prayer He solidified what God's will was for His life
 -Jesus drank the cup even though it meant crucifixion and death
 -we often look for ways out of any suffering in our version of Christianity - we want a “comfortable” Christianity

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Jesus was yielding to His father's will - and it involved suffering and death
2. Have you ever risked suffering and death for obeying God's will?
 -have you ever been made fun of because you stood up for Jesus?
3. We live in a time... when people will not even roll over and get out of bed to follow Jesus to Sunday morning church - much less endure any type persecution
4. There is always a cost/ cross to following Jesus - if you are not experiencing the cross, you are probably not following Jesus

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