

### **The Betrayal of Jesus (Mark 14:43-52)**

- Jesus staggered in Gethsemane as He gazed into the cup He must drink
- Taking this cup meant that He would drink man's sin to the full
- He would be drinking down to the dregs God's wrath which man rightly deserved
- Casting himself to the ground in passionate prayer all night long strengthened Him
- In submission completely our Lord bowed to the cross, & now the time had come  
"The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of... ..sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" (vv. 41,42).

#### **I. The Arrest of Jesus (14:43-49)**

- Vs 43 "immediately, while He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve"
- Without Judas, the priests would never have found Jesus, & he expected resistance
- Judas knew Gethsemane was a place of trusted retreat for Jesus and the disciples
- Note, the text says "Judas one of the twelve" to emphasize Judas's terrible crime
- Judas's hypocrisy had gone for years for him to be at a place of such hardness
- With him was a crowd bearing swords and clubs, about 500 had gathered in all
- Temple police & a Roman cohort; Jews needed Roman permission to arrest Jesus
- Note: men from chief priests & elders, they forwent Passover for hatred to Jesus
- Judas's sign, "the one I will kiss...he went up to him and said rabbi & kissed him"
- The act was probably a prolonged action, 'multiple kisses' to identify Jesus
- The result, Mark adds, (46) "and they laid hands on Him and seized Him"
- John's Gospel reports, "Jesus said, 'I am He' and all the men fell to the ground"
- They could do nothing without His approval. In this capture, the captive triumphed
- Most likely, this emboldened Peter (Jn 18:10) cut off the chief priest's servant's ear
- Mark doesn't mention Jesus response do the others, but now the focus is on Jesus
- "Have you come out against a robber" – a highway man or a revolutionary
- "Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching" you had opportunity
- Why now with swords & clubs, everything I have done has been righteous
- "let the Scriptures be fulfilled" they could do nothing unless it had been ordained
- All of the disciples, even the inner circle, and Peter with all his promises fled
- Even the young man who followed closely (Mark?) fled naked from Jesus