



## Jesus Seized by a False Friend

Matthew 26:31-56

- 1) What does the passage teach about God?
  - a) He knows the future; hence, He is sovereign
  - b) He is merciful to those whose love for Him is sketchy
  - c) In His humanity, He feared His Father's wrath
  - d) In His humanity, He desired to pray and to pray with friends
  - e) He hears all prayers, but He doesn't answer all of them affirmatively
  - f) He ordained that His Son go like a sheep to the slaughter
- 2) What does the passage teach about man?
  - a) He has an over-inflated view of himself
  - b) His spirit is willing, but his flesh is weak
  - c) He is easily tempted, capable even of betraying and denying Christ
  - d) His zeal for God is too often misguided in favor of violence
  - e) There are Judas Iscariots in our midst
    - i) Disagrees w/Bible
    - ii) Motivated by self-interest; not Christ's
    - iii) Hypocritical, greeting Christ and betraying Him
    - iv) Sorry but not repentant
    - v) They have a price and can be bought
- 3) Is there an application being taught?
  - a) God later used Peter's pride to humble and restore him
  - b) God used the disciples' cowardice who later laid the church's foundation
  - c) God restores (1 John 1:9; cf. Gal. 6:1) and renews us (Isa. 40:31)
  - d) When tempted to sin, pray!
    - i) Jesus prayed three times; Paul prayed three times
    - ii) Instead of being self-indulgent, we should be praying
    - iii) No wonder Peter said, "Stay alert, for the devil lurks"  
(1 Peter 5:8)
  - e) Prayer doesn't change God, it changes us