

# **Malchus' Ear – The Last Witness (John 18:1-14)**

## **Outline By: Mark Knowles 09/15/19 PM**

It is interesting how little we really know concerning the cross. But the arrest? There are fourteen verses in John and a total of forty in all the gospels together. What that means is that there are many things God wants us to know and grasp concerning the details of Jesus' arrest.

### **I. The Arrest**

*In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. (Hebrews 5:7)*

The name *Gethsemane* means "oil press." The olives would be picked and put into the press for their oil. What a picture of suffering! So our Lord would go through the "oil press" and the "winepress" (Isaiah 63:3) and taste our judgment for us.

The Kidron had special historical significance, for King David crossed the Kidron when he was rejected by his nation and betrayed by his own son, Absalom (2 Samuel 15). Jesus had been rejected by His people and at that very moment was being betrayed by one of His own disciples!

Judas came with the lynch mob. Some count six hundred! Josephus thought it was more like one thousand! Jesus "turned Himself in." He was saying, "Here I am!" Doing so got his disciples freed which was amazing considering the action of Peter.

Figure out Malchus' ear! How could it be the right ear? Swinging a sword around blindly may cut off heads and shoulders but not the right ears. Peter had a sword and he knew how to use that sword. He knew whom to use it on (a slave not the police chief). It was a bluff! Jesus rebuked Peter and cured the ear. The disciples then fled.

### **II. The Lessons**

#### **1) The Sovereign Majesty Of Jesus**

God was not caught by surprise, and Jesus did not lose control. We are told: The hour had come. This was God's man, time, place, and way (Acts 2:23-26). It was the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God. Jesus is the master of difficult moments. If He can handle a lynch mob during the arrest, He can handle anything. You can trust your life to Jesus. The glory of the cross is the absolute sovereignty of God!

#### **2) The "Last Witness"**

"Malchus' ear" was the last witness. God made one final appeal to Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin. Jerusalem was warned, and Jerusalem failed! Israel was uniquely blessed. Their selfishness and stubbornness became their ruin. God's last warning was "Malchus' ear."