

The Betrayals
Mark 14:43-52
August 17, 2014

Introduction

When we think of Judas' betrayal, we think of only him that betrays Jesus. Mark gives us an account here with a hint that everyone betrays Jesus. He is left alone to face death on the cross.

Mark 14:41b *Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.*

Everyone at the Garden of Gethsemane abandons Christ. Judas abandons Christ for money. The disciples abandon Christ for their lives. The chief priests abandon Christ for power and prestige. The Romans abandon Christ because He is just another Jewish troublemaker. The betrayal is done so that Scripture will be fulfilled. Christ is left alone to face the cross to fulfill all of God's promises about salvation for all people. Jesus has to go to the cross because it is His Father's will. Jesus has to go to the cross because there is no other way.

As Paul says in Romans:

Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-*

It takes one man to condemn the whole world into sin. It also takes One man to save people from sin.

Romans 5:15 *But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!*

Our Lord is now alone to face death on the cross to save the sins of His people. He is committed to do His Father's will. He now holds the cup, ready to receive God's wrath.

Mark 14:43-52

43 *Just as He was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.*

- Judas—one of the Twelve
 - Sense of amazement that the one man who is responsible for putting Jesus on the cross is from the Twelve
 - Judas certainly hid his pretense and hypocrisy well
- Crowd armed with swords and clubs
 - How large?

John 18:3 *So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.*

- Detachment of soldiers = cohort
 - Cohort of Roman soldiers...up to 600 soldiers
 - In addition to Roman soldiers, temple guards
 - Roman soldiers carrying swords
 - Temple guards carried clubs

- Up to 1,000 men
- Sanhedrin sent this crowd

44 Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The One I kiss is the Man; arrest Him and lead Him away under guard." **45** Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed Him. **46** The men seized Jesus and arrested Him.

- Traitor's signal
 - A kiss
 - Why?
 - At night—to identify Jesus because He looked like everyone else
 - Did not want to arrest the wrong man
 - The kiss
 - Strong embrace
 - Greek (kataphileo)—fervent kiss
 - same kind of affection shown by father to prodigal son)
 - False and hypocritical display of affection
 - For slaves—they kiss their master's foot
 - For inferiors (lower class)—they kiss the hands
 - For equals—they kiss the cheeks

Luke 22:48 but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Note: Jesus is letting Judas know that He knows of his treachery.

- Traitor's command
 - Arrest Him and place Him under guard
 - Satan is in charge of this and he is controlling Judas
 - Satan does not want Jesus killed
 - Peter's declaration that Jesus not be killed is inspired by Satan
 - This is the last that Mark says anything about Judas
- Traitor's death

Matthew 27:3-5 When Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. **4** "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility." **5** So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

Acts 1:18 (With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out.

- Judas was not filled with sorrow that leads to repentance
- The arrest

John 18:12 Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound Him

47 Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

- Fighting back
 - Cuts high priest's servant's ear (Luke and John says right ear)
 - Who is this "fighter"?

John 18:10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

- It is Peter
- Servant's name is Malchus
- Peter is certainly bold here in front of all of these soldiers and guards
- How did Peter get so bold?

John 18:3-9 So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons. **4** Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to Him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?" **5** "Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "I am He," Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) **6** When Jesus said, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. **7** Again He asked them, "Who is it you want?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." **8** "I told you that I am He," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for Me, then let these men go." **9** This happened so that the words He had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those You gave Me."

- These men fell every time Jesus said "I Am"
- Jesus is revealing His divinity to the men
- Because of the response of the soldiers and guards, Peter attacks

Luke 22:51 But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And He touched the man's ear and healed him.

- Jesus put a stop to that

John 18:11 Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given Me?"

- His kingdom is not expanded by the sword

John 18:36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest by the Jews. But now My kingdom is from another place."

48 "Am I leading a rebellion," said Jesus, "that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture Me? **49** Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest Me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled."

- Confronting the crowd
 - He does not run away but addresses them directly
 - Am I leading a rebellion?
 - Am I a dangerous criminal?
 - Am I a physical threat to be feared?
- Everyday
 - The chief priests could not arrest Him

Luke 19:47-48 Every day He was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill Him. **48** Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on His words.

- Under cover of darkness
 - They arrest Him out of sight of the people
 - Why now?
 - The reason you are arresting Me is that Scripture will be fulfilled

50 Then everyone deserted Him and fled.

- All the disciples fled from His presence

Mark 14:31 But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with You, I will never disown You." And all the others said the same.

51 A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, **52** he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.

- We do not know who this young man is
- Could be John Mark