

The Arrest

John 18.1-14

February 14, 2021

Introduction:

- moving from the farewell discourse to the Passion narrative
- they cross the Kidron Valley and go to the Garden of Gethsemane
 - olive grove; a “gethsemane” was a press - this may have been where they made olive oil
- Jesus’ final prayer
- the mob consisted of Jews and Gentiles
- the size of the force seems to indicate they were assuming a violent confrontation
- what they encountered instead was Jesus, Messiah, Saviour, King
- Jesus demonstrated the sovereignty of God and his total surrender to the will of God...

Main Points: Jesus shows us how to respond to persecution:

1. Jesus was courageous - vs. 1-4
 - Jesus confronted the armed mob without reservation - Whom do you seek?
 - he knew the answer to that question - “then Jesus. knowing all that would happen to him...”
 - John 13.11 - predicted Judas’ betrayal
2. Jesus had confidence - vs. 5-7
 - Jesus knew precisely who he was
 - The I Am formula
 - the force of his declaration causes them to fall down -

3. Jesus was composed - vs. 8

- even in light of being face to face with a lynch mob, Jesus interceded for the disciples
- Jesus had just prayed that he hadn’t lost any that the Father had given him, and he wasn’t about to now.
- Jesus steps in between the mob and the disciples securing their freedom - you have me - let them go

4. Jesus was committed - vs. 9-14

- Chaos ensues: Peter jumps out and slices off someone’s ear.
- Jesus knew what was coming down the Pike and allowed it to happen
- the authorities thought they were in charge, but they weren’t. This was the plan.

Conclusion:

In the face of persecution, people who know God are:

1. courageous
2. confident
3. composed
4. committed