



John 18:1-14 Lesson #48
Gerald Cumby, Teacher

John 18:1-3. *“When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.”*

Let’s look at some critical biblical understandings as to why certain seemingly unimportant information was really a lesson in itself.

- **Brook Kidron.** *This stream carried the drainage from the temple...and would be reddish from the blood of thousands of Passover lambs. Although the disciples did not think much about it, Jesus was reminded of His soon sacrifice. No wonder he sweat drops of blood.*
- **Where there was a garden.** *Human history begins in a garden ([Genesis 2:8](#), “Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. Eventually history returns there ([Revelation 22:1–5](#)). Adam's sin and disobedience created death; Jesus' obedience will be part of atoning for that sin ([1 Corinthians 15:45](#); [Philippians 2:8](#); [Genesis 3:12](#)).*
- **Detachment of Troops; well armed with weapons.**
 - ✓ *Military and Security Forces for the religious leaders were needed to arrest a peaceful preacher!!*
(Sounds like something we might hear about today).
 - ✓ *Judas...”I get the money, you guys get your political, personal enemy.”*
 - ✓ *Judas must have been a very weak person both physically and emotionally. “I just want the money, but don’t let Peter hurt me!”*

John 18:4-6, *“Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, ‘Whom are you seeking?’ They answered Him, ‘Jesus of Nazareth.’ Jesus said to them, ‘I am He.’ And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, ‘I am He,’ they drew back and fell to the ground.”*

- *The Sovereignty and All-knowing Characteristic of Jesus is seen here. Does anyone who knows Jesus believe He (Jesus) did not know what was going on? He knew and He wanted them to understand there was Deity and Power in the man they were seeking.*
- *The very breath of his mouth confounded, drove back, and struck the military troops and security guards down to the earth. Do you think they might have been stunned by such powerful words from a preacher man?*
- **When Jesus said, “I AM HE,” He confirmed the fact that He was “THE GREAT I AM.”**

Power in the Name of Jesus: Somebody ought to put two and two together and come up with four. “Who can stop the Lord Almighty!”

- ✓ *Jesus slept when He was exhausted, but awoke to calm the storm.*
- ✓ *Jesus wept at a grave, then called the dead to life.*
- ✓ *Jesus surrendered to arrest, then declared “I am” and knocked all the troops over.*
- ✓ *Jesus died on a cross, but in it He defeated sin, death, the grave, and Satan as well his minions/demons who do his dirty work.*
- **Few scenes in scripture so show us the extraordinary qualities (goodness, mercy, faithfulness) of Jesus as does the arrest in the garden.**
 - ✓ *It shows us his courage.*
 - ✓ *It shows us his authority.*
 - ✓ *It shows us that Jesus chose to die.*
 - ✓ *It shows his protective love.*
 - ✓ *It shows his utter obedience.*

"Shall I not drink," he said, "the cup that God has given me to drink?"

This was God's will, and that was enough. Jesus was himself faithful unto death.

John 18:7-9, Then He asked them again, “Whom are you seeking?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way,” that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.”

- **Jesus was identified (Jesus of Nazareth);**
- **If you seek Me, let these (the disciples) go their way:**
 - ✓ **“Let my people go!” Sound familiar?**
 - ✓ **Jesus did not continue to oppose His arrest. Jesus willingly gave Himself up to protect His disciples.**
 - ✓ **“In a sense, he sacrificed himself for their safety. He had promised the Father that he would protect them ([John 17:12](#)).**

John 18:10-12, “Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?” Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him.”

- **Peter wanted to fulfill his previous promise to defend Jesus at all cost: “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” ([Matthew 26:35](#)).**
- **Jesus did not praise Peter for what he did; He told him to stop. This was to protect Peter as much as to protect those who came to arrest Jesus.**
- **John named Peter as the defender of Jesus, but did not tell that Jesus miraculously healed the cut-off ear of the high priest’s servant ([Luke 22:51](#)). NOTE: Luke, of course, did not observe this situation; but Luke communicated and walked with the disciples after Jesus was crucified (Acts).**
- **All of the ones seeking to arrest Jesus got in on the taking down of this “enemy of the court.” Every one of them wanted an “atta boy” from the leaders (military and religious).**

John 18:13-14, “And they led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.”

- **Annas (High Priest from A.D. 6 to 15) was the power behind the religious hierarchy/throne in Jerusalem. Four of his sons had also held the high priesthood and Caiaphas was his son-in-law.**
Annas was a narcissist:
“Every narcissist is a hero and a legend in his own mind.”
- **Caiaphas advised the Jews that it was better that one man should die for the people:**
 - ✓ **This unknowing prophecy of Caiaphas is recorded in [John 11:49-53](#).**
 - ✓ **Without knowing, Caiaphas spoke the truth that it was good for Jesus to die for the people.**
 - ✓ **God’s will and God’s plans are sometimes carried out by the enemy. Satan’s lies and deceitful tactics come back to haunt him. In the end, the devil’s tactics and actions justifies Jesus sending him to hell forever.**

WE ARE IN THE SAME BOAT...OUR ACTIONS OR LACK OF ACTION GIVES WITNESS FOR OUR TRIP TO HELL. WE ARE JUDGED ON OUR FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE WE NEEDED TO CHOOSE JESUS!

Do you realize the same narcissistic character of Satan is seen in every unbeliever? "I can do this on my own. I have done this on my own. I will do this on my own because I know what is best for myself."

The narcissist has a hard time with humility.

- *"The extreme sociopathic narcissist is the center of his own universe." – Sam Vaknin*
- *"Narcissism is voluntary blindness, an agreement not to look beneath the surface." – Sam Keen*

"Narcissistic personality disorder is named for Narcissus, from Greek mythology, who fell in love with his own reflection. The term "narcissist" is used to describe persons who is self-absorbed and has a need to bolster his or her self-esteem through grandiose fantasy, exaggerated ambition, exhibitionism, and feelings of entitlement." – Donald W. Black

Satan wants to take God's place in usurping his authority to be the King of the Universe and have it for eternity.

He is the enemy of God and His creation. Satan desires to send every Christian (those who have placed their trust in Jesus, God's Son) to death and to the pit of hell.

GOD WOULD NOT LET THAT HAPPEN! JESUS WOULD NOT LET THAT HAPPEN!

THEY WERE DETERMINED TO BRING BACK GOD'S CREATION HOME. IN HEAVEN WE WOULD BE LIKE HIM AND FELLOWSHIP WITH THEM FOR ETERNITY (FOREVER).

GOD IS GOOD ALL HE TIME!