

“Betrayal”

I. **INTRO:**

- A. Arielle Ritter - YWAM; Dec.29th leaves;
 1. Consider supporting Arielle; In info booth after service.
- B. CCCM has a ministry “*Widows Helping Widows*” - Weekend Retreat @ Hot Springs.
 1. Women who have lost their spouse. Share experiences. Steps of grief.
 2. *Janie Alfred* Speaker. Jan 22-24; \$115 (can't afford let me know) Details on Bulletin Board.
- C. **Wed Night:** Invite you, message entitled “*What If*” [A personal challenge to Christians in 2010]
 1. New Years Eve's, Eve, Wed night 7pm, **not** Thursday night.
- D. I wrote a *Poem* from Heb.10:5 years ago called *Earth Suit!*
 1. Heb.10:5 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me.
 2. A body You have prepared for Me, Fearfully and wonderfully created for Me. An Earth Suit completely tailored-n-knit, Specially designed for a manger to fit. A body to live, but a body to die, I have come in the flesh, for I was born to die. From pudgy little hands, pink and new, To nail pierced, and bleeding for you. My soft face once My mother did kiss, Now cheek defiled, by a betraying kiss. In My first steps my parents did boast, Then later My feet held fast to a post. To be a resident of the very world I made, An infant child in a manger was laid. A body You have prepared for Me, To coo, to grow, to save, to bleed!
 3. This is our segue from the **birth** of Christ to the **crucifixion** of Christ.
- E. **Overview:** Moving from chapters 13-17 to now ch.18 is like enjoying a *steamy hot shower*, when all of a sudden it goes *freezing cold*.
 1. We now step into Jesus' **betrayals & denials & trials**.
- F. **Outline:** A Brook; A Garden; A Sword; A Cup; An Arrest.

II. **BETRAYAL!**

- A. **A BROOK!** (1a)
- B. Our Lord went forth from the city(Jer) & across the brook Kidron to Gethsemane, **but** not for concealment **but** for “*reveal-ment*”...as verse 2 explains.
 1. **It's vulnerable.** It's a private spot away from city buildings that might hide Him & from the crowds that might protect Him.¹

¹ Chuck Swindoll; John; pg.50

2. About 28 generations earlier, Jesus' great grandfather (to about the 28th) **King David**, crossed this **same brook** (2 Sam.15:23) when he was exiled from his throne. Also because of **betrayal** of his own friends & family (Absalom).

C. **A GARDEN!** (1b-9)

D. Interesting this took place in **a garden**, Christ, the *Last Adam*.

1. **He** met the enemy in the garden & **triumphed**; **while** the *first Adam* met the enemy in the garden & **failed**.
2. **Adam hid himself**, **but** Christ **openly revealed Himself**.

E. **Et tu Judas?** An inside job. *Insider trading* if you will (30 pieces of silver, the going price of a slave)

F. His sin had been growing for a long time (see Jn.6:64)

1. He **doesn't** seem to be a **monster of evil**, **but instead** simply **selfish**. Which led to **insincerity** as a disciple; **falsehood** as an apostle; **theft** as a man; & at length **perdition** as a traitor.²

2. **And look what didn't help him:**

Not the wonderful 3 year privilege of **walking** with Jesus;

Not 3 years of **listening** to divine truth from Jesus himself;

Nor even being **numbered** among the apostles.

a) Oh the *awful possibilities of evil* when our **heart** is separated from **Divine grace!**

b) *"Oh but for the grace of God, so go I!"*

G. (3) **Irony:** They came w/**lanterns & torches** looking for **The Light of the world!**

1. And the light just stands there. W/o pretense, w/o protection & shines openly through the darkness.

H. This **detachment of troops** (*speira*) was a 10th part of a legion. Normally comprised 600 men (yet varied 200-1200).

1. This large # of soldiers not only insured **the success of the arrest** **but also** would have been able to **stave off any riot** that might ensue.

I. (4) **Knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward!**

1. A willing voluntary sacrifice.

J. (5,6,8) Note the thrice-repeated phrase "**I AM he**". [he not in Greek]

1. It is a reiteration of the divine name from **Ex.3:14** (Moses: **who should I say sent me?**)

2. **Also** used by Jesus in **John 8:58**. **Also** note the **effect** of Christ's statement on the hearers. **His presence overawed them**.

a) The same name that **saves** believers, **condemns** the lost.

² Griffith Thomas; The Apostle John; pg.221

- K. (5,6) **Question:** Was Judas left standing?
1. Listen to Message Bible, *“The soldiers recoiled, totally taken aback. Judas, his betrayer, stood out like a sore thumb.”*
- L. **A SWORD!** (10,11a)
- M. See anything unusual? A sword in the hands of a fisherman?
- N. Like *a lamb silent before its shearers*, Jesus, offered no resistance (Is.53:7).
1. Not so w/Peter. Instead he does a little **shearing** of his own!
 2. But, there would be **no blood shed** besides his!
- O. Jesus warned His disciples to go away, lest they fall into trouble(8).
1. He had already told them they would scatter(16:32) but Peter preferred to remain & fight - & got into danger because of it.
 2. I agree with Warren Wiersbe’s assessment of this text, *“Peter’s sin was not that he **“followed from afar”** but that he **followed at all!**”*
 3. Christ never needs our protection; the weapons we are to use to fight Satan are spiritual ones.
 - a) Peter used the **wrong weapon**, had the **wrong motive**, acted under the **wrong orders**, & accomplished the **wrong result**.³
- P. As Paul said to the Israelites (Rom.10:2) **they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge**, so could we say about Peter here.
1. Ok, so what does a **heathy zeal** look like: [Source unknown]
- Q. **A zealous man in religion is pre-eminently a man of one thing.** It is not enough to say that he is earnest, hearty, uncompromising, thorough-going, whole-hearted, fervent in spirit. He only **sees** one thing, he **cares** for one thing, he **lives** for one thing, he is **swallowed up** in one thing; and that one thing is **to please God**. Whether he lives, or whether he dies - whether he has health, or whether he has sickness - whether he is rich, or whether he is poor - whether he pleases man, or whether he gives offense - whether he is thought wise, or whether he is thought foolish - whether he gets blame, or whether he gets praise - whether he get honor, or whether he gets shame - for all this the zealous man cares nothing at all. **He burns for one thing**; and that one thing is to please God, and to advance God’s glory. If he is consumed in the very burning, he cares not for it-he is content. He feels that, like a lamp, **he is made to burn**; and if consumed in burning, he has but done the work for which God appointed him. Such a one will always find a sphere for his zeal. **If** he cannot preach, work, and give money, he will cry, and sigh, and pray...**If** he cannot fight in the valley with Joshua, he will do the work of Moses, Aaron, and Hur, on the hill (Exodus 17:9–13). **If** he is cut off from working himself, he will give the Lord no rest till help is raised up from another quarter, and the work is done. This is what I mean when I speak of ‘zeal’ in religion.

³ Warren Wiersbe; Outlines in the NT; John 18:1-14

R. How gracious of Jesus to heal Malchus, & thus protect Peter from Harm.

1. Otherwise there might have been another cross on Calvary, & Peter would have been crucified before God's time had come (& missed out on 1st 1/2 of Acts)

S. **A CUP!** (11b)

T. (11) **The cup which My Father has given Me -**

1. Let us ever take **the cups of life's pain & sorrow** direct from **the hand of God; not seeing Judas, but the Father!**⁴
 - a) **Joseph** told **his brothers** (back in Genesis) that it was **not they** who had sent him to Egypt, **but God**.
 - b) **David** would not have **Shemei** silenced, because he felt that **God** had allowed him to utter his anathema.
 - c) Here, **Jesus** rested absolutely on the **Father** who loved Him before the world was made.
 - d) **It's also like Paul** seeing His chains from **the Lord, not Rome**.

U. What do you trust in?

1. **Judas** trusted on the strength of numbers; **Peter** on the strength of his arm; **Annas & Caiaphas** on the strength their position; **Jesus** on the strength of love & devotion to the Father.⁵
 - a) Jesus had **a cup** in his hand, **not a sword**, but that **cup** was **His scepter**.
 - b) He was in complete control.

V. **AN ARREST!** (12-14)

W. The snare is tripped; the prey is caught. Mission Accomplished.

X. What **Meekness** & **Majesty** are here!

1. **Meekness** - that He should subject Himself to the arresting, binding, & leading
 - a) We snicker at **Delilah** trying to bind **Samson** in the beginning, she didn't know what she was dealing with.
 - b) **Note:** He never loses control; He responds willingly; He shows compassion on both the **disciples** (8,9) & the **soldiers** (10,11).
2. **Majesty** - that He should be able to use the *unspeakable* Name of God "**I AM**".
 - a) Jesus, a picture of **calm dignity, real majesty**, & showing in His last & supreme test **incredible victory**.
 - b) His closing hours were in *entire consistency* with His beautiful life & ministry.

⁴ F.B.Meyer Biblical Commentary; pg.475.

⁵ Warren Wiersbe; With the Word; pg.702.

- Y. (13) Apparently a **preliminary & private examination** was held while the Sanhedrin was being hastily summoned.
- Z. (14) John reminded his readers of Caiaphas' *unconscious* prophecy (Read John 11:49-52)
1. Caiaphas, trying to save his political skin proposed a **simple lethal solution** "Why should the whole nation be destroyed? Let this one man die for the people." [He didn't realize how correct he was!]
 2. **Admire the bee:** It sees its hive being threatened it will use its one defense, its stinger! It will **die** in defense of their hive. They have **one thought only**, the safety of the others in the hive, & gladly will give their life *for the good of the many!*
 3. **Admire Jesus:** He has **one thought only**, the safety of the others in His world, & gladly will give His life *for the good of the many!*

Poem: *Baby God!*

What adorable hands on that lil tike; Yet both hands destined for a very cold spike.
 Peach fuzz surrounding the crown of his head; Soon to be thorns appearing in its stead. Pudgy
 feet kicking in rhythm & pace; Later to be nailed & fastened in place.
 Now lying in hay, its warmth is His bed; Shortly on limestone He'll lay his sweet head. An
 Infant Twas He for only a time; But a Savior always, for He is Divine!