

Is Your King Silver?

"When He had finished praying, Jesus left with His disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and He and His disciples went into it. ²Now Judas, who betrayed Him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples. ³So 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. ⁴Jesus, 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.) ⁶When Jesus said, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷Again He asked them, "Who is it you want?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." "I told you that I am He," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for me, then let these men go." ⁹This happened so that the words He had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me." ¹⁰Then 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.) ¹¹Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?" ¹²Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound Him ¹³and brought Him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people."
- John 18:1-14

In this Series, We Will Learn That...

1. Everyone has an ultimate king that they serve, and this king controls their thoughts and actions.
2. Many people who would call Jesus "Saviour" do not understand that He must also be king.



Some Background

The night before the cross Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples, but a day early. He modeled humble servanthood and taught them in John chapters 13-16, then prayed before them in chapter 17.

"When He had finished praying, Jesus left with His disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley"
- John 18:1

This Was All God's Plan

1. Jesus was not a victim, but an intentional Saviour who came to the earth for that very purpose.

"But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed."
- Isaiah 53:5

"This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross."
- Acts 2:23

2. Jesus knew exactly what was about to happen to Him.

"Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to Him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"
- John 18:4

"We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn Him to death ¹⁹and will turn Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day He will be raised to life!"
- Matthew 20:18

The Place

The Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus often went with His disciples. It was a place of oil pressing and of prayer.

"They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray."
- Mark 14:32

"Now Judas, who betrayed Him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples"
- John 18:2

The Arrest

1. The arrest of Jesus is unusual from many perspectives:

There were 600 soldiers and other authorities to arrest one man, and they were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.

Jesus goes out to meet them instead of running from them.

He asked who they were seeking and responded with His favourite words, "I Am." At His words, His pursuers fell down.

He asked a second time, to clarify the exact purpose of the group.

Having confirmed their purpose, He demands that the disciples be allowed to go unharmed. The officials agree, and this fulfilled the Scriptures.

"This happened so that the words He had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."
- John 18:9

"And this is the will of Him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that He has given me, but raise them up at the last day."
- John 6:39

Peter showed bravery by attacking with a sword, but Jesus calmed the situation immediately and healed the damage.

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

2. Finally, the arrest was completed, and Jesus was taken to Annas.

The King

Judas was a traitor who kissed His Lord to identify Him.

Money was Judas' real king, and he learned too late that it could not save him.

"But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray Him, objected, ⁵"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it."
- John 12:4-6

"...and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I hand Him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty silver coins."
- Matthew 26:15

"So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself."
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