

# Further up, Further in

## Resources for Continued Study



LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

### “THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS”

For individual study or discussion

In Luke 22:47-53, the betrayal of Jesus by one of his most intimate companions sets in motion his arrest and culminates with the crucifixion. After setting a table for his last meal (v. 14) and praying for the disciples' faith not to fail (v. 32), the night of treachery arrives (vv. 47-53). Christ's composure and calm amid the tumult of the crowd bearing swords and clubs testifies to his control over the events that lead to his death. As one theologian explains, *“He will be no mere victim. If he is to go as a lamb to this slaughter, he must go willingly. Freely, by his own eternal spirit, he must offer himself (Hebrews 9:14).”*<sup>1</sup>

- Read John's parallel account of the betrayal (18:1-11). How does this passage show that Jesus is not a passive victim but actively in control of the situation?

#### Jesus responds to Judas' betrayal. (vv. 47-48)

In the face of betrayal, Jesus responds calmly to Judas by confronting his greeting of affection, *“Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?”* With meek patience, Jesus directly unmasks Judas' treachery, and by doing so, offers him one final chance to turn from his evil undertaking: *“Jesus knew his design and tried to strike a blow on his conscience. He called him by name, he upbraided him for using a kiss for such false purposes, and reminded him that what he was doing was done against the ‘Son of man.’”*<sup>2</sup>

- Being one of the twelve disciples, Judas was an insider who walked with Jesus and witnessed his ministry and miracles. Read Matthew 7:21-23. Are religious associations, practices, and miracle-working evidences of being born-again?
- Read Psalm 41:9, Acts 1:16 and 4:27-28. As Jesus moves toward the cross, he takes great pains to fulfill all that is written in Scripture. How are the evil deeds of men like Judas not beyond God's control? (cf. Genesis 50:20)

#### Jesus rejects his disciples' misplaced zeal. (vv. 49-51)

Peter's thoughtless action and misplaced zeal as he takes up a sword against the soldiers who arrive to arrest Christ could have caused more trouble if not for Jesus' quick denunciation and defusal of the situation as he miraculously heals Malchus' ear. (cf. John 18:10-11)

- When Judas arrives with soldiers to arrest Christ, Jesus rebukes Peter's aggressive actions, *“No more of this!”* Read Matthew 26:52 and 1 Peter 3:9. What warning does Jesus give for those who retaliate? Remember how Jesus prayed for Peter (v.32)? Discuss his later transformation and witness. (cf. Acts 4:1-22)
- Read Romans 12:17-21. How do Peter's actions serve as a warning? Identify ways that you might respond like him. How can you guard against falling prey to the same sins?

#### Jesus rebukes his opponents' cowardice. (vv. 52-53)

It is ironic that the man whose ministry brought healing and reconciliation to the world would be assaulted by a mob carrying swords and clubs. As Philip Ryken concludes, *“Here is another irony: Jesus could have destroyed all of these men in a single instant, and none of their weapons would have given them the slightest protection. Their clubs and swords were not only unnecessary; they were also useless.”*<sup>3</sup>

- Read John 3:16-21, Acts 26:15-18, and Ephesians 5:8-16; 6:11-13. Jesus told the Jewish authorities, *“But this is your hour, and the power of darkness”* (v. 53). How is darkness at work in the world today? How can a disciple of Christ overcome the darkness?

DATE: February 16, 2025

SPEAKER: Frank/Chad

SERIES: Gospel of Luke

PASSAGE: Luke 22:47-53

### RENEW: 31 Days of Prayer

#### DAY 23: Church Officers

**PRAYER:** Jesus, we acknowledge that you alone are Head of the Church. And yet you call particular children of God to serve within your body as elders and deacons for the good of your people. We pray now for the church officers that you have called at LMPC. For all of them, keep your call fresh in their hearts and refresh them in their service to you. May our elders and deacons seek your counsel daily in Word and prayer. Enable the elders of LMPC to shepherd this little flock of God not under compulsion, but willingly; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in their charge, but being examples to the flock. We pray that you will empower each LMPC elder to be above reproach and without arrogance, quick-temper, violence, or greed. But instead, by your grace, grant to each elder an abundance of hospitality, goodness, self-control, integrity, holiness, and discipline. Ensure, by the power of your Spirit, that our Session of elders holds firm to the trustworthy Word of God and that they remain resolute to hold to sound doctrine and to rebuke those who contradict it. For our deacons, who mercifully serve and faithfully care for the physical and tangible needs of the flock and the building, enable them to live lives of dignity without falsehood, addiction, greed, or dishonesty. Give to each LMPC deacon a servant's heart, a merciful spirit, and a prudent mind. May our elders and deacons work together in unity of spirit, in solidarity of heart, and in minds fastened to truth. Through your faithfulness to our elders and deacons, we trust that you will demonstrate your faithfulness and love to each of us. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

#### PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

**PCA Unity Fund**, denominational partner ministry

#### PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

**Lifeway Mission International**, world missions partner

<sup>1</sup> Mathis, David. *The Hour Had Come*. March 29, 2018. DesiringGod.org. <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-hour-had-come>. February 11, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Miller, Donald. *The Messiah*. <https://www.bibleoutlines.com/luke-2247-53-the-power-of-darkness-betrayal-and-arrest-of-jesus/>

<sup>3</sup> Ryken, Philip. *Luke, Volume 2*. 2009, Philipsburg, NJ. P&R Publishing. 519