



June 7

Judas Betrays, Peter Fights, But Jesus Embraces the Cup

He...carried our suffering...he was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. The punishment that brought our peace was on him; and by his wounds we are healed...Yahweh has laid on him the iniquity of us all – Isaiah 53:4-6

[John 18:2-14] Now Judas, *one of the twelve*, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. Judas then, having taken a detachment of soldiers and officers from the chief priests *the scribes, the elders*, and the Pharisees, came there while he was still speaking with lanterns, torches, and weapons—swords and clubs. Jesus therefore, knowing all the things that were happening to him, went forth, and said to them, “Who are you looking for?”

They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus said to them, “I am he.”

Judas also, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When therefore he said to them, “I am he,” they went backward, and fell to the ground.

Again therefore he asked them, “Who are you looking for?”

They said, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. If therefore you seek me, let these go their way,” that the word might be fulfilled which he spoke, “Of those whom you have given me, I have lost none.”

Now he who betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, “Whoever I kiss, he is the one. Seize him and lead him away safely.” Immediately he came to Jesus, and said, “Hail, Rabbi!” and kissed him.

Jesus said to him, “Friend Judas, why are you here? Do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”

The cup which the Father has given me, shall I not...drink it?

Simon Peter therefore, having a sword, *stretched out his hand*, drew it, and struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. *But Jesus answered, “Let me at least do this”—and he touched his ear, and healed him.* The servant’s name was Malchus.

Jesus therefore said to Peter, “Put the sword into its sheath. *The cup which the Father has given me, shall I not surely drink it? For all those who take the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I couldn’t ask my Father, and he would even now send me more than twelve legions of angels? How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must be so?*”

In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes *to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and elders, who had come against him*, “*Have you come out as against a robber with swords and clubs to seize me? I sat daily with you in the temple teaching, and you didn’t stretch out your hands to arrest me. But all this has happened, that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.*”

Then all the disciples left him, and fled. *A certain young man followed him, having a linen cloth thrown around himself, over his naked body. The young men grabbed him, but he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.*

So the detachment, the commanding officer, and the officers of the Jews, seized Jesus and bound him, and led him to Annas first, for he was father-in-law to Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should perish for the people. [Matthew 26:47-56, Mark 14:43-53, Luke 22:47-54]

1. Why does only John mention the falling soldiers? Why was Judas’ kiss still performed?
2. Do you relate to Judas, Peter and Mark (the fleeing boy)? How? What must you change?
3. Jesus, you reached out to Judas, healed Malchus, confessed your power to the crowds, and...