



LESSON 150 - MARK 14: 47-52

And one of them that stood by drew a sword, and smote a servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me?

I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled.

And they all forsook him, and fled.

And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him:

And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.

1 Read Mt 26:47-54, Lk 22:47-53, and Jn 18:3-11 for accompanying information to answer these questions.

- a. What was the servant's name? Which ear was severed? Whom did he work for?
- b. Who drew his sword and cut the servant? One sword against so many armed soldiers, what was he thinking?
- c. Did Jesus know there was going to be an incident? Read Lk 22:38
- d. Why did Jesus heal the servant?

2. What else did Jesus say to the soldiers beside "... Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me? I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled"?

3. What scriptures is Jesus referring to, when He says, "The scriptures must be fulfilled"?

"And there followed him a certain young man": Mark's Gospel is the only one which includes this account of the young man. It is thought that this was Mark himself, son of the owner of the house with the upper room used for the last supper a few hours before this. Supposedly, Judas led the band of soldiers, etc., to that house, expecting to find Jesus and the disciples relaxing after dinner. Waking the householder, and his son Mark, Judas finds out Jesus is no longer there, so

Judas goes to the nearest favorite spot of Jesus, the garden of Gethsemane. (Lk 21:37) Mark, fearing what was about to happen and wanting to warn Jesus, doesn't take time to dress, but, wrapped up in a bed sheet, runs after them, and arrives just as Jesus is arrested. When the soldiers also try to grab Mark, he flees, leaving his covering in their hands.

Probably some of the saddest words in the Bible are these: "And they (the disciples) all forsook him, and fled." The disciples had pledged their faithfulness to the death, but didn't follow through with their promise. However, that pledge was not in the will of God the Father or Jesus, for the disciples would eventually become the messengers and preachers of the gospel in the years to come. Jesus requested that the soldiers not arrest His followers, but "let them go (unharmd)," so that the scripture could be fulfilled that He had prayed shortly before. (Jn 17:12) We know Peter came back and followed Jesus to the palace of the high priest, as did another disciple, probably Judas. (Mk 14:54, Jn 18:15) We also know John showed up at the cross.

Possible Answers

1.a Malchus; right ear; chief priest

b. Peter; I think he was aiming for Judas, but missed.

c. Yes. In Lk 22:38, in the upper room, the disciples said they had two swords, and Jesus said, "It is enough." He may have received a word of knowledge that He was to heal the servant's ear after it was cut off.

d. By Jesus' miracle of healing the servant's ear, He restored him in view of all the people for another testimony to them of Who He was. He gave all who would, a chance to retreat from being associated with the terrible travesties of justice which were soon to be committed. Secondly, by healing the servant, Peter could not be charged with assault and resisting authority. Jesus wanted the disciples free, to fulfill His prayer which He had spoken in John 17:12: "Of them which You gave Me, I have lost none." See Jn 18:8-9.

2. Read Lk 22:53, Jn 12:27,14:30

3. The only scriptures written at the time of Jesus, was the Old Testament, so He had to be referring to verses in the books of Genesis through Malachi. See Ps 41:9,55:12-14,20-23,37:12-15, and Isa 53:12.

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