

Jesus' Resolve to Drink the Cup

John 18:1--12 (page 87 in the black Bibles)

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Introduction:

John 18 moves us into the final section of John's Gospel dealing with Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion, death, resurrection & post-resurrection appearances.

Transition

1When Jesus had spoken these words,

John 13-17

He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples.

“Over the ravine of the Kidron” – “The brook Kidron is mentioned frequently in the Septuagint (though in the Gospels only in John; see 2 Sam. 15:23; 1 Kings 2:37; 15:13; 2 Kings 23:4, 6, 12). The Greek text indicates a wadi (sporadic brook) named Kidron, which occasionally runs during the rainy season in the Kidron Valley east of Jerusalem between the city and the Mount of Olives. (ESV notes)

The garden is identified with the orchard of “Gethsemane” on the Mount of Olives.

Matthew 26:36-56; Mark 14:32-53; Luke 22:39-54a

Judas' Betrayal

2Now Judas also, who was betraying Him, knew the place, for Jesus had often met there with His disciples.

3Judas then, having received the *Roman* cohort and officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

“Roman cohort and officers from the chief priests and Pharisee”

Roman cohort – Romans soldiers led by a commander (18:12) who went along to quell any resistance that might lead to a riot. They were probably requested by the chief priests and Pharisees and agreed to by Pilate. (Also mentioned in Acts 10:1; 21:31; 27:1)

A previous attempt to arrest Jesus had failed - John 7:32, 44-49

“lanterns, torches and weapons”

They were anticipating the possibility that Jesus would hide Himself and/or that Jesus and His disciples would resist arrest.

Jesus Interrogates His Arrestors

4So Jesus, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him,

John 10:17-18

**went forth and said to them,
“Whom do you seek?”**

5They answered Him, “Jesus the Nazarene.”
He said to them, “I am *He*.”

And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them.

6So when He said to them, “I am *He*,” they drew back and fell to the ground.

I am – John 8:24, 28, 58

At Jesus’ answer the arrestors fell to the ground.

7Therefore He again asked them, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

8Jesus answered, “I told you that I am *He*; so if you seek Me,

let these go their way,”

**9to fulfill the word which He spoke,
“Of those whom You have given Me I lost not one.”**

John 6:37-39; 10:27-29; 17:12

Peter’s Misguided Attempt to Intervene

**10Simon Peter then, having a sword,
drew it and struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear;**

and the slave’s name was Malchus.

Only John mentions the slave’s name.

Matthew 26:51-54; Mark 14:47; Luke 22:49-51

11 So Jesus said to Peter, “Put the sword into the sheath;

The Significance of the Cup

the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?”

“Cup” – suffering; God’s judgment & wrath poured out on sinners.

Used in response to the request of the Sons of Zebedee - Matthew 20:20-23

Jesus prayer in Gethsemane - Matthew 26:39, 42; Mark 14:36; Luke 22:42-44

A symbol of God’s judgment - Psalm 11:6; 75:7-8; Isaiah 51:17, 21-23; Jeremiah 25:15-29; Ezekiel 23:31-35

Revelation 14:9-11; 16:19

When Jesus drank the cup which the Father had given Him, Jesus satisfied the Father’s requirement for justice so that He could declare sinners to be in right standing before Him by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

“The cup which the Father has given to Me”

Isaiah 53:3-12

Romans 3:21-26

Hebrews 2:17-18

1 John 2:1-2; 4:9-10

12 So the Roman cohort and the commander and the officers of the Jews, arrested Jesus and bound Him.

Application

For the believer in Jesus Christ the “cup” Jesus drank becomes the “cup of salvation & blessing”.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Psalm 16:5

Psalm 23:5

Psalm 116:12-13