

FOLLOWING AT A DISTANCE

MATTHEW 26:47-58, 69-75

MATTHEW 26:47-56

1. THIS IS THE MOMENT CHRIST IS HANDED OVER INTO THE HANDS OF EVIL MEN. IT'S WHAT HE'D BEEN TELLING HIS DISCIPLES ABOUT. HE MUST GO TO JERUSALEM AND BE HANDED OVER BY HIS OWN TO THE GENTILES TO BE MOCKED, FLOGGED, CRUCIFIED, AND RAISED ON THE 3RD DAY.
2. JESUS WAS FIRST LED TO ANNAS (HIGH PRIEST, BUT REPLACED BY HIS SON-IN-LAW CAIAPHAS).
3. HE WAS THEN LED TO CAIAPHAS, THE SCRIBES, AND ELDERS.
4. THEN TO PILATE.
5. THEN TO HEROD.
6. THEN BACK TO PILATE.
7. **NOW BACK TO THE TEXT.**

WHAT HAPPENED ?

MATTHEW 26:57-58, “THEN THOSE WHO HAD SEIZED JESUS LED HIM TO CAIAPHAS THE HIGH PRIEST, WHERE THE SCRIBES AND THE ELDERS HAD GATHERED. AND PETER WAS **FOLLOWING HIM AT A DISTANCE**, . . .”

A. **GIVE PETER CREDIT**

1. **Vs. 30-35**: HE WAS READY TO DIE WITH JESUS
2. **JOHN 18:3-11**: HE DREW HIS SWORD AND STRUCK

B. **THINGS DIDN'T GO AS PLANNED**

3. “HIS WILL” WHEN IT’S “OUR WILL”

C. **WE DON'T KNOW WHAT OR WHY THINGS MAY HAPPEN**

4. SICKNESS BECAUSE OF SIN (GENESIS 3)
5. TRIALS BECAUSE OF SATAN (JOB 1-2)
6. DISASTER BECAUSE OF NATURE (**JOB 37:10-13**)
7. STUDY WHAT SOLOMON AND JESUS TAUGHT

WE NEED TO BE MENTALLY PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!

MATTHEW 26:69-75

WHAT IT CAN LEAD TO

A. **Vs. 69-72**

1. WE BEGIN TO PLAY THE IGNORANCE CARD
2. WE DON'T WANT TO IDENTIFY WITH "THE MAN"

B. **Vs. 73-75**

3. WE DON'T WANT TO IDENTIFY WITH FOLLOWERS
4. ISN'T IT BETTER TO SUFFER WITH CHRIST?

HOW IT CAN END

C. **JOHN 21:15-19 "FOLLOW ME"**

5. JOHN RECORDED THE RECONCILIATION
6. MATTHEW 26:32 TEACHES THAT JESUS . . .

ACTS 4:5-13 THE COUNCIL RECOGNIZED SOMETHING

FOLLOWING AT A DISTANCE?