

The Boldness of Jesus

John 18:1-12

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Bold means, “fearless before danger” “showing or requiring a fearless daring spirit” (Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary).
- B. We see many occasions where Jesus showed this kind of fearless spirit. He was often very bold.
- C. With the betrayal and arrest of Jesus, John chose to focus on the glory of Christ.

JESUS WAS DEVOTED EVEN THOUGH IT WASN’T EASY (JN. 18:1-3).

- A. Jesus went forth willingly, with a specific purpose, knowing what was going to happen.
 - 1. He could have chosen to flee or tried to avoid the situation.
 - 2. If you knew going to a specific place would be life threatening, you would avoid it.
- B. Jesus went to a place that Judas knew very well.
 - 1. Jesus set Himself up to be captured and taken in.
 - 2. Judas procured a “band” of soldiers.... in the Greek the word for band means, “a tenth of a Roman legion.” A Roman legion was usually 600 soldiers.
- C. The band of soldiers brought lanterns, torches and weapons with them.
 - 1. Passover was held during the days of full moon, so there would have been plenty of natural light.
 - 2. Perhaps they were expecting Jesus to flee and hide in the darkness of the garden.

JESUS TOOK THE INITIATIVE (JN. 18:4-6).

- A. Jesus was not the victim of circumstance.
- B. He made a courageous/bold claim by saying, “I AM.” The He is only added in English.
 - 1. They came expecting Him to either try to hide or fight.
 - 2. Judas was standing there – it must have struck him at that moment. We never know what effect a courageous confession/claim has upon a soul. We are to just confess/proclaim Christ.
- C. Jesus was willing and determined to die for the sins of men (Jn. 10:17-18).
- D. When the will of God is known, it is to be done courageously, no matter the opposition or threat.
- E. Jesus was not the victim, He was the Victor!
 - 1. Notice who was in charge in this situation.
 - 2. I Cor. 16:13 – Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

JESUS WASN’T THINKING ABOUT HIMSELF, HE WAS THINKING ABOUT OTHERS (JN. 10:7-9).

- A. His disciples were in danger at this moment and He wanted to protect them.

- B. He offered himself in their place (Jn. 10:11).

JESUS DID NOT FEAR THE DEATH HE WOULD DIE (JN. 18:10-12).

- A. Peter was still thinking about Jesus setting up an earthly Kingdom (Jn. 18:36).
- B. Jesus could have escape this moment and His capture (Matt. 26:52-53).
- C. Death for a cause is not such a great price to pay.

CHRISTIANS MUST BE BOLD - The boldness of Jesus should do more than simply impress us. We need to work to be more like Him. We need to be bold. There are times when being a Christian demands it!

- A. I Cor. 15:33 – We must be bold when it comes to choosing our friends.
- B. Matt. 28:18-20/ I Thess. 2:1-2 – We must be bold in sharing the Gospel with others
- C. I Pet. 1:15-16; 4:1-5 – We must be bold in how we live and conduct ourselves

Describe a time when you were spiritually bold?

Describe a time when you were spiritually chicken?

The Character of the Bold

- A. Fearless/Courageous
- B. Unintimidated
- C. Outspoken
- D. Convicted
- E. Faithful

Jesus fulfilled God's plan of saving us by being bold. If we want to be with Him someday, we have to live lives that are bold.