

THE PAIN OF REJECTION

Mt. 26:44-56

THE PRIORITY OF RIGHT

One of the most amazing chapters in the Bible. Starts with a lady anointing Jesus' head with costly ointment in preparation for his death. It includes the last supper, Gethsemane, his arrest, his disciples forsaking him and him telling Peter he would deny ever knowing him.

We are about to look at the most extreme case of rejection that has ever taken place on earth.

The God of heaven comes to offer himself to this world and they say, "we want no part of you".

We're also about to see how the devil treats people. It's amazing how convincing he can be. He has millions of people convinced that living for today, having a good time, doing what "you" want to do, is the way to enjoy life. If you believe his lies you will regret it. He will eat you up and spit you out.

1. JESUS WAS ARRESTED BY SINNERS Mt. 26:47

Included Judas. He betrayed Jesus with the kiss of friendship. Ultimate betrayal.

Judas was a pretender. Someone who pretends to like you, be your friend.

"great multitude" = Roman soldiers / 600, for one man.

"from the chief priests and elders" They're the religious bunch.

Those who had done far worse than what they accused Jesus of doing.

Who were they to come after him? What right did they have?

They should have been standing for Jesus. He was innocent. They were supposed to protect the innocent.

That's how people are. The ones who should stand with you, turn against you.

2. JESUS WAS ABANDONED BY SAINTS

Mt. 26:45 disciples slept while he battled

Mt 26:56 ...Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

The ones he had poured his life into.

Lk 22:60-61 And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

I'm sorry, but church people will fail you.

The day may come, when the closest person on earth lets you down.

3. JESUS WAS ABUSED BY SOCIETY

He was arrested and tried illegally.

He was tried by two legal systems.

JEWISH Mt. 26:57-67

A trial was to be carried out by the High Priest and the Sanhedrin. (group of 70 men who were to act as judges to determine guilt or innocence)

No formal accusation was brought against Jesus.

The trials were to be carried out during the day.

The search for hostile witnesses was illegal.

They did their best to drum up some kind of evidence they could use to prosecute him. They didn't care if it was true or not.

A guilty verdict was not to be given on the same day as the trial. (next day)

ROMAN

The next morning they took him to Pilate. (Roman official)

Lk 23:1-12

Herod was also a Roman official. Under a different jurisdiction than Pilate.

Jn 18:38I find in him no fault at all.

Mt.27:15-26

The people demanded that Jesus be put to death.

A system that had been set up to protect the innocent and punish the guilty.

Mt 27:26and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

He delivered Jesus to the Jews to be crucified.

Jesus knew the pain of rejection.

Bottom line, everyone failed the Lord.

Is 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief...

No verse could be more true.

If it happened to him, why do we think it won't to us.

It will happen to you if you live for this world and what's in it.

SINNERS WILL LET YOU DOWN

SAINTS WILL LET YOU DOWN

SOCIETY WILL LET YOU DOWN

If it hasn't happened yet, it will.

The only one who won't is the one called Jesus.

GIVE YOURSELF TO THE ONE WHO WILL NEVER FORSAKE YOU