

THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Luke 22 – 23

II: Arrest

I Cor 13:4-8: what Love looks like

Love is most amazing when it is under stress.

It is deeply affecting to meditate upon the love of Christ under His deepest stress: His Passion: 12 examples:

- His last Passover (4 examples)
- His arrest (3 examples)
- His trial and crucifixion (5 examples)

Observe how He illustrates I Cor 13 under the most trying of circumstances.

See how He loves you and me

See how He reacts to your sins and failings

See a model for your living out I Cor 13 by His power

I. His earnest desire for their fellowship:

Lk 22:15

II. His patient response to their thoughtless selfishness:

Lk 22:24-30

Gentle – Patient – Encouraging!

III. His gentle warning to Peter's overconfidence:

Lk 22:31-34

IV. His warning to pray in Gethsemane and gentleness when they fail:

Lk 22:40, 46

See in His **Arrest** His tender patience and love for His disciples and His enemies:

V. His _____ question to His betrayer's kiss: Lk 22:47-48

VI. His _____ of His disciples Jn 18:7-9 before Lk 22:49

His foremost thought is not His well-being but theirs!

If they taken into custody, they could be executed with Him

Result: they all deserted Him and fled (one left his clothes in his panic!)

Mk 14:50-52

But not before a bit of a scuffle:

VII. His _____ of His enemy's ear

Lk 22:49-51

A. Fearless

So He can be calm and caring

No guilt

No fear ("Can call on 12 legions of angels" Mt 26:53)

B. Majestic

Only a touch. So little attention that only Luke records it!

Contrast to the apocryphal gospels

C. Boundless compassion

- Never asks what is the least required

- Doesn't say it is only a slave and only an ear

Contrast kings David and Zedekiah

This King stops at His arrest to heal a slave

- Doesn't see him as an enemy that deserves to suffer for what he is doing

Common grace; returning good for evil (1 Pet 2:20-23; 3:9) His last miracle is for this enemy slave

Behold the compassion of Jesus for sinners!

He always goes beyond the minimum

For the most ordinary of His people

With mercy that takes your breath away.

You and I were His enemies. And He took the initiative to reconcile us to Himself and remove us beyond any accusation (Col 1:21-22)

That is your Savior. Come to Him now.

Learn His heart (Eph 1:17)

Reflect His love.

If you are not in another class, I invite you to discuss this and every sermon with me in Aux Cl #5 at 10am, between services.