

Smite the Shepherd

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I. Introduction. Text: Mark 14:26-52.

II. Jesus knew what was going to happen because He knew the Old Testament thoroughly.

A. Zechariah predicts the events of the Garden of Gethsemane.

B. The Shepherd would be smitten and the sheep would be scattered as took place with Jesus and the disciples here.

C. Jesus did not speak of His resurrection here.

III. Peter displayed a confident bravado that he would not do what the rest would do. However, Jesus predicted his fall.

A. Peter was cocky.

B. He believed that Jesus was wrong.

C. We all can feel this at times.

IV. The smiting of the Shepherd.

A. The Father would smite Jesus.

B. There is a sense of division between Jesus and the Father through the distinction of wills.

C. Jesus did not want to take the agony that was ahead of Him on the cross.

D. If He had never felt this divergence of will, He could have never sympathized with man.

E. There will come times where we must do something no matter how we feel.

V. The disciples fall asleep praying.

A. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.

B. The nature of the flesh--the confidence we have in ourselves--is always weak in the hour of testing.

C. Prayer makes a big difference during this time.

VI. The betrayal of Judas.

A. The treacherous kiss of Judas.

B. The cutting off the man's ear.

C. The sudden flight of the disciples.

VII. The man who fled naked was likely Mark.

A. He was likely the rich young ruler.

B. This may have been Mark's way of saying he renounced all he had to follow Jesus.

C. This is also Mark's way of telling the reader how they got the account of Gethsemane.

Application questions:

1. Why is it important that Jesus' will diverted from the Father's in the Garden before His crucifixion?

2. How is prayer opposite of the flesh? Explain.

3. In what ways have you acted brashly against the Lord like Peter? What did you learn from those situations in hindsight?
