

## **Jesus Arrested**

Luke 22:39-62

by Don Falkos

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Jesus went to the Mount of Olives with his disciples. Going a short distance from them he fell to his knees and prayed. "Father, if you are willing, take away this cup of suffering I'm drinking from. But don't do what I want. Do what you want." He was in such anguish his sweat was like drops of blood as it fell to the ground.

Jesus went back to his disciples and found them asleep. He roused them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray so you won't give in to temptation."

Just then a crowd arrived, led by Judas Iscariot, who came over to Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

One of Jesus' followers picked up a sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. Jesus called out, "Enough of that!" He touched the man's ear and healed him.

Then he said, "Am I some sort of dangerous criminal that you come after me with swords and clubs? I was with you every day, teaching in the temple. Why didn't you arrest me there?"

They seized Jesus and led him off to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter followed and went into the courtyard of the house. A servant girl saw him and said, "This man was with Jesus."

Peter denied it, "I don't know that man!"

Later, someone else said, "You're one of them."

Peter said, "I am not!"

Still later, someone said, "I think this guy was with Jesus. They're both from Galilee."

But Peter said, "I don't know what you're talking about!" And even before the words were out of his mouth, a rooster crowed. Peter remembered what the Lord had said. "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you even know me."

Peter went outside and wept bitterly.