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# How are we Handling Jesus Christ?

*September 9, 2009*

**CAMPBELL CHAPEL FWBC - SERMON**

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Wednesday, September 9, 2009

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### Mark 14:43-52

*43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.*

*44 And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely.*

*45 And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him.*

*46 And they laid their hands on him, and took him.*

*47 And one of them that stood by drew a sword, and smote a servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.*

*48 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me?*

*49 I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the Scriptures must be fulfilled.*

*50 And they all forsook him, and fled.*

*51 And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him:*

*52 And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.*

As we continue our study, last week we talked about Jesus had been in the garden. He prayed. The Bible says His sweat became as great drops of blood. Peter had also said just shortly before that, "Lord, I'm not going to betray you. All the rest of the gang may forsake you and do all kinds of things, but I'm going to be with you." When Jesus gets to the garden, Peter, no doubt, meant well but he couldn't even stay awake while Jesus was praying. Jesus would go away and pray and come back to find them all asleep.

Many times we have good intentions, but our good intentions don't get us very far. I would say if we would all be honest; we could all say that we have been in that position before in that we had great intentions in that we were going to do or was not going to do, or whatever. Sometimes we fall into the same trap.

Jesus has told them here that He was going to be betrayed. He was going to go to the cross and He was going to die. They just couldn't grasp that. They just couldn't get a hold of that for different reasons. He has just told them in verse 42; "Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand."

Keep in mind we are probably 12:00 at night. He is in a garden just outside the walls of Jerusalem. Jesus knows that in a matter of a few minutes He was going to be arrested. Not only that He was going to be arrested but that He also was going to be mistreated, beaten, abused and all kinds of things that was about to happen to Him. Yet, I can't help but think how much that He loved these men, how much that He cared about these fellows, and how much that He didn't want them to be hurt or mistreated or anything like that. Although He was going to do what He was going to do. He was going to go through all that He was going to go through. He still yet was not only thinking about these twelve, but even on the way to garden as He was praying (if you read John chapter 17), there is no doubt in my mind that He had me in mind and you in mind, when He did that.

He did some great things there and great praying there and said some great words. When we get to verse 43 here it says, "And immediately..."

*43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.*

In other words, when Jesus said, "Let's rise and be going." Then immediately here is Judas. Here is Judas, the Bible tells us if we read; Judas has already made a deal with the chief priests, scribes and elders. The Bible tells us that Judas was a thief. We know that he was one of the twelve. We know that he one that Jesus Christ himself called. We understand that, but the Bible tells us that he was a thief.

I was thinking about Judas today. There are all kinds of things that the scriptures say about Judas, but as we look at his life there is no doubt that Judas, when he first began to steal... As I said before, he was the treasurer for the group. As he started to steal, there is no doubt in my mind that he probably didn't steal very much. It might have been just a little bit here and little bit there. As the monies increased and he could take more out and probably nobody really paid much attention to it.

That's how sin is. We start out little in sin. We start doing little things that we should or should not be doing. If we are not very careful then our sin will get out of hand. It will take us places that we never dreamed that we would ever go. It will take us down roads and down paths that we may have said many years ago, a few years, or a few days ago that we would never take. However, when we start participating in sin and doing just little things; if we don't ask God to forgive us of these things then it will take us down a road that we don't want to be on. It will take us down a road that there is going to be a lot of harm and a lot of hurt on.

I've talked to people before that committed some horrible things. Do you know what some people think? They think that because God is not judging them today; they may have committed some sin yesterday, last week, or last month and they are doing well in their lives. However, do you know what they think? They think that they are never going to be judged for their sin. I promise you there is going to be a day of reckoning coming. You will face almighty God. He'll be dealing with your sin.

He says here, “**immediately.**”

*43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.*

It tells who was coming. Keep this in mind. This was on Thursday night. He’s going to be put on the cross on Friday morning. He’s going to die Friday afternoon. But here he comes. Here comes Judas with a whole group of people. He comes with the soldiers. The Bible says here, they come from some of the chief priests, scribes and elders. No doubt, there were some people here in this crowd who were trained military people. Probably some of the temple guards were here. They were coming to arrest a fellow that never did anybody any wrong. They were coming to arrest a fellow, Jesus Christ, a man that had never done anything wrong. He had never lied. He had never cheated. He had never stolen. Everything He had ever done, in the thirty-three years or so that He lived here on planet earth was good. Yet, they were coming to get Him. They were going to do their very best to get Him killed. They were going to kill Him.

That is how the world is today. We might think that the world loves us, but if we are saved today and living in the Will of God today; this world does not love you and me. They don’t like us. Do you know why? They don’t like us because how we live and what we stand for is totally opposite of how they live and what they stand for.

The message that Jesus Christ preached was a message that let these guys know (these religious people, the chief priests, scribes and elders)...if you would have talked to them they would have told you quickly about the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. They could have told you about that. However, they were very wicked in what they were doing.

There are many people today who are religious. There are also many people today who are wicked. Some of the most wicked people that I know went to church. That’s very true. This is what we need to remember. Saved people are going to heaven. Lost people are going to hell. It doesn’t say anything in the scriptures about belonging to this church or that church. It talks about being born again and being a part of the family of Almighty God. If you are saved tonight then you are a part of that family and you are on your way to heaven. We need to remember that.

*43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.*

Keep this in mind. Picture this in your mind. Judas was one of the twelve. He had been there and saw Jesus do some great things. He had been there in a lot of things that Jesus had done. We know that he didn’t see some things that Jesus done. However, Judas had been there. He had seen and heard Jesus teach. No doubt, he saw Jesus walk on the water and do some great things. He was one of the disciples. He was one of them. Yet, he is coming here now—not as a friend, but as a traitor. Put that picture in your mind. Judas being with the eleven and Judas being there seeing so many of these great things that Jesus did; now here Judas comes as a traitor.

I wonder sometimes; do we sell out? Do we really love the Lord as we say we do? Judas was coming full of deception and hypocrisy. That's what he was doing. Look what he does here. He comes with this whole crowd.

*44 And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely.*

Judas when he had met with the chief priests, scribes and the elders; he had agreed with them for thirty pieces of silver. He said, "If you give me this money then I will lead you to where He is at." Judas knew where He went. Judas knew His pattern. Judas knew some things He did and where He went and when He would be there. Judas said, "Let's make this agreement." They made the agreement for thirty pieces of silver. Here comes Judas. He has already made token with him or a covenant with him not only about the money and for the money, but he has already said, "The one I am going to walk up there and kiss. This is Him. This is the one that you guys want. You take Him. You lay your hands upon Him and get Him out of here. Judas had seen Jesus do some great things. Judas did not know what Jesus was about to do. He had no idea what Jesus was going to do.

The crowd that was coming to get Jesus, they did not even know what he really looked like. Had they known what He looked like then Judas wouldn't have had to kiss him. Judas wouldn't have had to say this is Him. You take Him. Judas would not have to have done that. Some in the crowd may have known. There is no doubt in my mind; the majority of the folks in the crowd that was coming to get Jesus didn't even know what He looked like. They didn't even know who He was. Probably, they knew very little about Him. Here comes Judas, supposedly being His friend.

Has anyone ever betrayed you? Has anyone ever sold you out? Has anyone ever patted you on the back and told you that they loved you and you're the best friend that they have; but they really sold you out. If you have never had that in your life, I hope you never have to face that. It hurts. I've had that more than once in my lifetime. People say they are your friends; that you can confide in. There have been times that people have sold you out. I felt today or tried to feel today how Jesus must have felt when Judas was coming.

He was going to kiss Him. Jesus knew what he was going to do. He understood all of that. But when you came up and kissed someone, they did that. That's how they greeted one another, especially a teacher or a rabbi. They would come up and give Him a casual kiss on the cheek. If we did that with men today, they would think we were gay or something. But that was the way they greeted one another. That was the way that they treated one another.

I want you to know something. I never knew this until I was reading today. Two different words here are used for the word "kiss." In verse 44, "And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely." The word "kiss" here is different than the word in verse 45. The word "kiss" in verse 44, means just a casual kiss, as you would walk up and just casually kiss someone on the cheek. However, in verse 45, when Judas actually gets here it was a "kiss" with intensity. In other words, it was something that should have been very affectionate; showing someone else that you really, really, really, loved them. You see, Judas was being

very deceptive. Judas was being very hypocritical. Judas was playing a game. He was being an actor. The Bible says when he gets here...

*45 And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him.*

Do you see how deceptive Judas was being? Do you see what he was doing? It wasn't just a little casual greeting as he kissed Him here as, no doubt, he had done many times; but it was a kiss of intensity. No doubt, he embraced Him and hugged on Him and squeezed on Him when he kissed Him on the cheek.

However, Jesus saw through all that. Jesus saw through all that. The disciples probably didn't see through it. The disciples probably didn't see through all that. They didn't understand that Judas was going to betray Him. Even though that they had been with him for three years or so. They didn't see the deception and the hypocrisy that Judas was living under.

Could you imagine how dangerous that is? Could you imagine a fellow, anyone actually; but could you imagine here Judas, someone who saw Jesus do all that He had done betraying Him, selling Him out and doing [it in this way]. No doubt, he comes up, hugs Him and kisses Him. He hails Him as master, master; teacher, teacher; and rabbi, rabbi. Yet all along he has different motives. His motives are all wrong. They are very hypocritical. They are very deceptive.

Folks I hope that we don't ever take that trip. I hope that we never do that. We need to be people of integrity. We need to be people of honesty and truth. We don't need to be deceiving people. We don't need to be acting one way when down in our hearts we really feel another way. Truth? In the Christian world, there is no room for that. There is no room for deception. There is no room to be hypocritical. There is no room for that. If you don't love me then you have a problem. If I don't love you, I've got a problem. Don't tell me that you love me when you don't love me. Don't do that. We are being hypocritical. We just make things worse.

When I look at what he is doing, he is doing this with no remorse, no fear, and no animosity. He probably had a smile of his face. He is betraying, abandoning the Son of Almighty God. Do you see that? Could you imagine how Jesus felt? Could you imagine what Judas didn't really feel? That is the scary part.

When we can be hypocritical as so-called Christian people, and the Spirit of God doesn't check then we are in bad shape. There is something bad wrong in our lives. When we can be deceptive, when we can be hypocritical, when we are not truthful and the Spirit of God does not check us, the Spirit of God does not convict us of our sin and make us aware that we have sinned against Almighty God then there is something wrong somewhere. There is no room for that in our lives.

Jesus is truth. He is the way and we know that He is the life. If we are following Him, He is in us, and we are patterning our lives after Him then we can't live those kinds of lives. That's truth.

*45 And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him.*

No doubt with a very intense kiss, hug, and greeting as though we hadn't saw someone for a very long time. This is what Judas has done.

*46 And they laid their hands on him, and took him.*

When you read the other accounts, you will find out that when they get to garden here, Jesus asked them, "Who are you guys looking for?" They said, "We are looking for Jesus of Nazareth." The Bible says that Jesus says, "I am He." Do you know what the Bible says? The Bible says that this whole crowd fell backwards upon the ground. That is what it says, doesn't it? They saw His power. That should have told them right there and then that they could not do anything with this guy. If He doesn't go willingly, we can't take Him. That should have told them that.

I thought about what the scripture says here in Mark.

*46 And they laid their hands on him, and took him.*

Did you ever think about the people here that were actually taking Jesus? Did you ever think about what they were thinking? No doubt, a lot of them were probably just doing their job. Most of them probably did not know much about Jesus. They probably had been ordered by the chief priests, scribes and elders and maybe even some of the Romans to go get this fellow and arrest Him. They probably had been ordered to do that. I thought about rude, cold, abusive and all kinds of other words that we could use here that these guys were who came and got Jesus. As we read all the accounts. There is no doubt that some of the soldiers here in this group, when they get in to the places where they are going to interrogate Him, the places where they are going to beat Him, abuse Him and misuse Him—no doubt, some of these soldiers were going to participate in that.

Ask yourself this question. How do you handle Jesus? We don't handle Him with our hands. How do you really handle Jesus Christ? Do you handle Him rudely? Do you handle Him very hypocritically? Do you handle Him very abusively? Here's the question. Here's the test. How that you handle God's people is how that you handle Him. How you deal with God's people is how you deal with Him. You could pick out the person in the world that you like the less, that you dislike, that's how much that you like Jesus Christ. Truth? That's really true.

If you don't like God's people, then how can you like Him? If you don't love God's people, then how can you love God? No. I don't love a lot of people's sin. I don't like their actions sometimes. I mean this sincerely. There is a time in my life that I couldn't say this. There is not a person on planet earth that I don't want to see go to heaven. There is not a person that has ever been born that I don't want to see go to heaven.

There is a world full of very wicked, vile people out there. But when they get saved, they are no longer very wicked, and no longer vile. We forget that sometimes. We look at some of the horrible sins that people commit. I understand they are horrible. However, when people get saved, they are no different than you are. They are no different than I am. We are the sons and daughters of Almighty God. We have been cleansed. We have been washed. We have been made white in the blood of the lamb.

**How do we handle Him? How do we handle His people?** How do we handle Him? How do we handle His Will for our lives? How do we handle that? What do we do with that? Do we just take our hands and shove that aside stacking that up over here then go and do what we want to do. How do we handle things when people don't treat us like we think that we ought to be treated? How do we handle that? Do we want to murder them? Do we want to kill them? Do we want to disown them? How do we handle things like that? Do you know what the sad part about that is? Many times, all along we can see everybody's issues and problems. We can see a world going to hell in a hand basket. But, do you know what we can't see? We can't see ourselves. We can't see our own sin. We can't see ourselves. We can't see how that we are handling situations and things. We can't see that. We can see everyone else's problems, but we can't see self. It's a good thought that we should have. How are we handling Jesus Christ? What are we doing with Him? What are we doing with His Will? What are we doing with what He is asking us to do?

These guys were very rude, no doubt. They were very abrasive. There were all kinds of things that went on here. They were not concerned about Jesus. They weren't concerned about hurting Him. They weren't concerned about none of those things. Do you know what they were doing? They were just trying arrest Him and get Him to the palace. Not only that but also they were very violent. They were unconcerned. There are many things that we can say about those guys.

Let's don't let those things be said about you and me. Let's don't ever let those things be said about us in that we are unconcerned, violent, abusive, or rude. Don't ever let that be said about us. We are the born again. We are the saved. We are the sanctified. We are the saints. Aren't we? That is what the scripture says that we are. Since we are that then let's live like that. Truth!?

*47 And one of them that stood by drew a sword, and smote a servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.*

We know that Peter did that. When we read the other accounts, when they laid hands on Jesus here Peter drew out his sword. It was probably a little short sword. It was probably a small sword that you could be able to defend yourself with, but it wasn't a sword that you would do a lot of fighting with. He pulls it out when they lay hands on Jesus. He had good intentions. Didn't he? Peter had good intentions here. When you look at him here, he is trying to defend Jesus.

**Get this.**

He had good intentions, but he was wrong. Do you know what Jesus was going to do? He had already told them, "I'm going to die. The scriptures must be fulfilled that I am going to die. I have to go to the cross. I'm going to die. But in three days, I'm going to rise again." I can applaud Peter's enthusiasm and zeal and his courage here. However, he was wrong. He was wrong in doing what he was doing here. Peter cut off Malchus's ear. Jesus picks up the ear and puts it back on his head. Had Jesus not done that there might have been four crosses at Calvary instead of three and Peter might have been on one of them.

Many times we do things out of zeal, courage or many different ways, but a lot of time we are wrong. We cannot fight spiritual battles with human weapons. The battle here that was going to be fought was a spiritual battle and Peter was going to try to do it with natural weapons. The battles that we fight are spiritual battles and you cannot win them with 357's, AK47's, or whatever but those is won by using the Word of God. That is how that they are won.

*48 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me?*

Look what Jesus said. Are you coming out to get me as though you are coming out to get a thief? That may have been something that some of them may have been told. That may have been what some of them were thinking is that they were coming to get a thief. This guy may be a thief. Jesus wasn't a thief.

*49 I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the Scriptures must be fulfilled.*

*50 And they all forsook him, and fled.*

They took Him. They laid hands on Jesus. When they laid hold of Him, the Bible says that they all forsook Him and fled. Do you know why they did that? Do you know why they all forsook Him and fled? They did that because the Bible said they were going to. They didn't do that simply because the Bible says that but the Bible said that they would do that. They didn't do that because the scriptures said they would, but the scriptures said they would because that was what they were going to do. Does that make any sense? It should make sense. That is what was going to happen. When the laid hold of Jesus, even though just a few hours before they all said, "We are not going to forsake you. We are not going to deny you. We are going to be with you." However, just as soon as they laid hands on Jesus, the Bible says they all forsook Him.

*51 And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body ; and the young men laid hold on him:*

*52 And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.*

We don't know who that was, but as you read some things it could have possibly been John Mark. John Mark at this time would have been a very young fellow. This is in the book of Mark. That is the only place that scripture is mentioned. Most historians think that the Last Supper was held in Mary's house, John Mark's mother's house in Jerusalem. Therefore, many think that this may have been John Mark here.

The thing that I want you remember tonight is this. The thing that stuck with me as I studied this lesson down through this week is how are we handling Jesus Christ? How are we handling Him? What are we doing with Him? That is the question that I want you to ask yourself tonight.

What are we doing with Jesus Christ tonight? I don't know. I don't have any idea. However, you know tonight. If you are not handling things right and rightly and you need to repent then this would be a good place to come and do that.

As we are standing, as God is speaking, as Jesus Christ is calling, and as we are singing; come tonight. Let's make things right with God tonight.

**Come—**