



# Healing of Malchus' Ear

**"And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him" (Luke 22:51).**

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"And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. 48 But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss? 49 When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword? 50 And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. 51 And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him. 52 Then Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and the elders, which were come to him, Be ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and staves? 53 When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness" (Luke 22:47-53).

"Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye? 5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them. 6 As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground. 7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth. 8 Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: 9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none. Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. 11 Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" (John 18:4-11).

Knowing that the time of His arrest was imminent, Jesus rounded up His prayers to wake up the sleeping disciples so that they would be awake to take the right action in the developing situation. He knew it would be better the disciples being awake when the multitudes arrive than being awoken into confusion in the middle of the crisis. The Holy Spirit has a way of stirring us up ahead of time so that we can react appropriately to a situation and save ourselves from danger. When you feel the stirring, it is your destiny fluttering between your feet for attention. Sensitivity and positive response to the Holy Spirit in a prayerful mode is all that is required to steer us into safety. May God help us to recognise and act correctly on time, in response to the call of destiny. While speaking to the disciples on their waking up, the multitude arrived, and the rest of the story unfolds:

**"Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" (John 18:11).**

- 1) "Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:48). Judas was at the fore front of the multitudes - a man with a mission. He kissed Jesus, a pre-arranged sign for the soldiers to identify Jesus. Note, he used a symbol of love/affection to hide evil motive. "... the kisses of an enemy are deceitful" (Proverbs 27:6); but Jesus was not deceived, hence His question. Not everyone is wise enough to recognise that not every kiss symbolise love and affection. Some may be kisses of lust or other ulterior motives. May God deliver us from deceitful kisses of a betrayer, in Jesus name!
- 2) The awakened disciples, correctly interpreting the situation asked Jesus whether they should fight with sword. Peter, without waiting for an answer saw that as a call to arm and cut off Malchus' ear.
- 3) "Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him" (Luke 22:51). The response of Jesus is very instructive. Even at his betrayal/imminent death, He maintained His cool, loved and healed an enemy. Christlikeness demands a demonstration of love towards our enemies even at the moment we are sorely hurt and in danger.
- 4) In answer to their question, Jesus said "Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" (John 18:11), but that answer came too late for Peter. Acting before hearing from God, could result in a wrong / improper action. What a surrender to God's will!
- 5) "... but this is your hour, and the power of darkness" (Luke 22:53) signifies a period of time where the principles of justice and fairness no longer operate. In times like these, it is not worth a fight but surrender to God's will and plan is the wise choice.