

## Arrest and Denial

### Introduction

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In John 18 the focus shifts from the Upper Room to the Kidron Valley, and to an olive grove which the Synoptic gospels identify as the Garden of Gethsemane (*lit* oil-press). Surprisingly John gives us no record of Jesus' prayer in the garden, most probably because he alone records the prayer in the Upper Room and because by the time of writing, the Gethsemane prayer was well known among John's readers. He does however give us other information which the Synoptics do not record, such as the response of the soldiers to Jesus self-identification and the name of the servant whose ear Peter severed. John's concern in his account is to show that Jesus remains in control of events, that His arrest is due to betrayal and that it is based upon false charges. Jesus' interpretation is that He is 'drinking the cup His Father has given Him'. Peter's denial while both understandable and sad, is in reality merely a fulfilment of what Jesus had predicted in John 13vs38 and gives the lie to Peter's over-confident words.

### Study Questions

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These questions help you to see clearly what the text is saying. This is a vital first step towards understanding what the text means. The questions should be answered from the text itself.

*Read John 18vs1-27. Answer the following questions:*

1. How did Judas know where to find Jesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Who accompanied Judas? What significance does this have?

