

SERIES: Gospel of John  
**The Guardian in the Garden**  
John 18:1-11

### The Symbolic Setting (18:1)

- Jesus leads the disciples across the brook Kidron, which means “**dark** waters.”
  - A picture of sacrifice- A drain ran from the temple altar into the valley to drain away blood.
  - A picture of betrayal- David cross this same brook when betrayed by his son (2 Sam. 15).
- Jesus leads the disciples into the garden of Gethsemane, which means “**oil press**.”
  - The first Adam began life in a garden. Christ came at the end of his life to a garden.
  - In Eden Adam sinned. In Gethsemane the Savior **overcame** sin.
  - In Eden Adam fell. In Gethsemane Jesus **conquered**.
  - Eden was the garden of disobedience; Gethsemane was the garden of **submission**.
  - In Eden Adam hid himself. In Gethsemane our Lord boldly presented himself.
  - In Eden the sword was drawn. In Gethsemane the sword was sheathed.
  - In Eden, Adam blamed his bride. In Gethsemane Jesus **protected** his bride.

### The Sovereign Savior (18:2-9)

- Notice...
  - Jesus’ **courage** in the face of death. (2)
  - Judas’ crowd to arrest him. (3)
    - They carried lanterns in case Jesus tried to **run**.
    - They carried weapons in case Jesus tried to **resist**.
  - Jesus’ **control** of the situation. (4)
    - Jesus was not **surprised** by these events.
    - Jesus was **sovereign** over these events.
  - Jesus’ **claim** about himself. (5-7)
    - He identifies his person: “*I am he, the one you are looking for.*”
    - He reveals his power: “*I AM the Lord, the God of Israel.*”
      - Jesus is not arrested because he is **weak**.
      - Jesus is arrested because he is **willing**.
  - Jesus’ **concern** for his disciples. (8)
    - Jesus ensured their physical **safety**...
    - To illustrate their eternal **security**.
  - Jesus completes his promise to protect the disciples. (9)
    - As their **Savior**, Jesus did not lose any that the Father had given to him. (John 17:12)
    - As their **Shepherd**, Jesus was laying down his life to save his sheep. (John 10:11, 16)

### The Sheathed Sword (18:10-11)

- Jesus makes no attempt to **flee**.
- Jesus will not allow his disciples to **fight**.

### The Submissive Son (18:11)

- Peter had a sword in his hand, but the Lord Jesus had a **cup** in his hand.
- Peter resisted God’s will, but Jesus accepted God’s will. (Matt. 26:39)
  - Jesus could have saved **himself** at any time. (Matt. 26:53)
  - Instead, he chose to save **us**.
    - Jesus was not a helpless victim, so he does not need our **pity**.
    - Jesus was not a courageous martyr, so he does not ask for our **bravery**.
    - Jesus was a sovereign savior, so he demands our **trust**.

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