

## Lesson 54 Matthew 26.31-35 (35) Jesus teaching on His power to keep the flock

### *Scandalised*

"All of you will be scandalised in me this night", Jesus said. Then He quoted scripture to affirm such a strange apparently critical statement. 'I will strike the Shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered'.

### *Smitten*

There is a word in the original which is *παταξω* meaning "a clashing" and "shouting" and smiting". The scene immediately ahead was one of voices in the night, of swords drawn and of conflict. Long ago Zechariah the prophet in Zech 13.7 stated how it would take place. Christ would be from the start the victim of the "smiting" and the disciples would be allowed to escape with their lives and liberty.

### *Serene Galilee*

At this moment of turmoil Jesus refers to Galilee. He is looking beyond death. "After I have been raised I will go before you into Galilee". This must have been even in these moments when they awaited the betrayer quite a dulcimer note of refreshing.

### *Simon's stout protest*

The thought of Galilee may have started a very positive series of thoughts in the mind of Peter. He proclaimed, "If everyone is scandalised, I will never be". Jesus replied, "Before the cock crows you will deny me three times". Peter responded, "Even if it is necessary to die with you I will not deny you; so said all of the disciples.

### *Scripture*

There is a scripture that neatly sums up the LORD'S Shepherd care. "And I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish neither shall anyone snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to Me,,, is greater than all, and no-one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand" (John 10 28-29)



### *From paper to practice.*

1. A Christian is immortal till his work is done. Yes or No?
2. Jesus said, "I will go before you to Galilee."

Had they died then the whole apostolic mission would have been aborted Yes or No?