



Today's Message

Date: August 28, 2022
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *The Hour of the Power of Darkness*

Text: Luke 22:47–53 (ESV)

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” ⁴⁹ And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³ When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

Introduction: As Jesus chided the disciples for their failure to pray in Gethsemane, a crowd of armed men made their way into the garden. Judas, one of the Twelve, led the way and betrayed his Master with a kiss of friendship. This moment marked the beginning of what Jesus called the hour of “the power of darkness.” Truly, dark forces were at work that night. The evil one imagined that he was in control. But Jesus would soon clarify whose hand really wielded the power that night.

- I. **On Friday of Passion Week, the power of evil came to full expression.**

- A. Jesus' disciples were unprepared for Satan's attack
47a
- B. Jesus' betrayer was one of the Twelve. 47b-48
- C. Jesus' disciples still didn't understand him. 49-51
- D. Jesus' opponents were finally emboldened to kill him.
52-53

II. But even at its worst, the power of evil could not overcome Jesus.

- A. The power of evil functioned within divinely prescribed limitations.
- B. The power of evil had no essential control over Jesus.
 - 1. Betrayal did not change his identity.
 - 2. Rejection did not goad him into retaliation.
 - 3. Arrest did not expose him as weak.
- C. The power of evil fulfilled what God had ordained for our good and his glory.

Today's take-home truth: The evil one is no match for our King.