

Witnesses to the Christ Week 3

Malchus

John 18:1-11

What do you do when the _____ !

- **We want to have** _____

Malchus' witness testifies that...

- _____ **is in** _____ !

So...

- _____ **Jesus control.**

+++++

Message Application:

I taught a grade school group a few years back. I tried to do the most crazy object lesson that led to a Bible application. Sometimes my creative thoughts would stall and Google failed to share a worthwhile activity. When this happened I would have the kids sit around the table and I would start a story. The story really could start any old way. For example I would say, "I was walking down the sidewalk in front of the church when I saw..."

Then the kid to the right of me would have to add to my story. Then the next child and so on and so on. Needless to say we ended up with a few crazy tales.

I got to thinking about Malchus in our Scripture lesson today. He wasn't expecting what he received. We see in the story that Malchus received something bad (a sliced off ear) and something great (the ear restored). The unexpected incident changed the life of this Roman servant. I am sure of that.

Now what about you and I, dear friend? When you look back on the journey so far, what crazy turns have you taken? What regret has hung around? How has God surprised you? When you look at the horizon into your future, what fears from the past creep back? What keeps you stuck because you don't know the outcome of something?

Remember from our Scripture, the crowd that came to take Jesus thought they had control. Peter took his sword and tried to take control. The rest of the disciples thought they had lost control. Malchus was completely helpless. Only Jesus had true control. Please remember he is the same today. He has control and has never relinquished it. It may appear that this world is in control. But as songwriter William Gather has written, “ He’s still the King of kings and Lord of all.”

This week in your meditation for Easter take some time to look at where your story has taken you and how God used the good, the bad and the ugly to bring about the best for you.

If you honestly do not see those “divine moments,” perhaps you don’t really know Jesus as your Savior and Lord. It is possible to go through life always keeping Jesus at arms length, not really knowing him. It is possible to fool yourself and think that you are in control of your life.

Why don’t you take some time and talk about it with Jesus. If you need someone to talk to that’s more flesh and bone give me a call. I’ll listen.

Peace & Grace,

Wm. Lyons