

JESUS' ARREST/SELF SURRENDER

John 18:1-11

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INTRODUCTION

So many critics of the Gospel and of the New Testament, those who do not believe that our Lord's life and ministry was manifested with supernatural power, and do not believe that His death was a substitutionary atonement with power to miraculously transform lives, paint the picture of a weak and helpless man who helplessly seeks to hide from His enemies when He realizes that they are looking for Him. He goes to a garden in the dark so that His enemies will be unable to find Him and will give up search.

How totally different is the portrait of our Lord as given to us by an eyewitness to the entire proceedings, the Apostle John. In John 18:1-11 John gives us **three big ideas**:

- **Christ voluntarily died.**
- **God's Plan was fulfilled.**
- **Christ Displays His Majesty in the event.**

We see here that Christ's arrest and ensuing death was not a cosmic mistake; it was God's sovereign plan.

JESUS GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR YOU. WILL YOU GIVE YOURSELF UP FOR HIM?

[The incident described.]

CONCLUSION

Jesus was not forced to die.

God's divine plan was not frustrated.

Christ was not a helpless victim.

Give yourself to Him; He gave Himself for you.