

A Word from Our Preaching Pastor:

Sunday April 11, 2010

*[The soldiers] laid hands on Him and seized Him. . . .
And [the disciples] all left Him and fled.*

Mark 14:35, 37-38

The sufferings of Jesus involved more than what he endured on the cross. Isaiah 53:3 says, “*He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.*” Verse 4 goes even further saying it was “*our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried.*” In order to be my Savior, it was necessary for Jesus to fully identify with me, the sinner. That means He did more than just carry my *guilt* to the cross – as marvelous as that is! To be my High Priest, Jesus experienced all the bitterness of life in this broken world, and yet bore it perfectly, without sin! (See Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:15-16).

Michael Card wrote a song several years ago, that I think well illustrates some of pain Jesus carried in those final hours. The song is called “**Why?**”

*Why did it have to be a friend / Who chose to betray the Lord
Why did he use a kiss to show them / That's not what a kiss is for
Only a friend can betray a friend / A stranger has nothing to gain
And only a friend comes close enough / To ever cause so much pain*

*And why did there have to be thorny / Crown pressed upon His head
It should have been the royal one / Made of jewels and gold instead
It had to be a crown of thorns / Because in this life that we live
For all who would seek to love / A thorn is all the world has to give*

*And why did it have to be / A heavy cross He was made to bare
And why did they nail His feet & hands / His love would have held Him there
It was a cross for on a cross / A thief was supposed to pay
And Jesus had come into the world / To steal every heart away
Yes, Jesus had come into the world / To steal every heart away*

I pray you join me this morning in thinking much about Jesus and His sacrifice, and rejoicing in the love that held Him there!

Marveling at the Love of the One Who Died for Me

Pastor Scott

PS - Camp Meeting starts Thursday! Please be in prayer!