Arresting the Good Shepherd

Gospel of John, Part LXI John 18:1-14 Stuart W. Bryan

I. What makes a Gospel? (cf. Jn 1:29; 10:11)

What makes Jesus unique, and what makes the	
Gospels,	_, proclamations of Good News,
is the death and resurrecti	ion of Jesus. "Behold the
Lamb of God who takes awa	y the sin of the world!"

An Outline of John's Gospel

- I. Prologue: The Identity of the Son of God (1:1-18)
- II. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Public Ministry (1:19-12:50)
 - A. The Son of God Revealed (1:19-4:54)
 - B. The Son of God Rejected (5:1-12:36)
 - C. Conclusion (12:37-50)
- III. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Passion and Resurrection (13:1-20:31)
 - A. Introduction: He knew His hour had come (13:1)
 - B. Jesus Prepares the Disciples for His Departure (13:2-17:26)
 - C. Jesus Departs this world to the Father (18:1-20:29)
 - D. Conclusion: Purpose of the Gospel (20:30-31)
- IV. Epilogue: The Future Mission of the Son of God (21)

II. Synoptic Harmony

"There were two trials, one Jewish and one Roman. The former began with informal examination by Annas (18:12-14, 19-23), possibly while members of the Sanhedrin were being hurriedly summoned. A session of the Sanhedrin (Mt. 26:57-68; Mk. 14:53-65) with frank consensus was followed by a formal decision at dawn and dispatch to Pilate (Mt. 27:1-2; Lk 22:66-71). The Roman trial began with a first examination before Pilate (Mt. 27:11-14; Jn 18:28-38a), which was followed by Herod's interrogation (Lk. 23:6-12) and Jesus' final appearance before Pilate (Mt. 27:15-31; Jn 18:38b-19:16). Other reconstructions are also possible, but this one usefully coordinates the biblical data" (Carson, 576).

III. Betrayal and Arrest

- A. Setting (1-3)
- B. Interview (4-9)
- C. Resistance (10-11 cf. Lk 22:51)
- D. Arrest (12-14 cf. 11:49-52)

IV. Profile of a Good Shepherd (In 10:11-18)

"I' I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹²But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own ¹⁵[just as] the Father knows Me [and] I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. ¹⁸No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

A. Shielding the Sheep First, faithful shepherds ______ the sheep from harm. A huge crowd comes out to arrest Jesus. These are the wolves; the wolves are bearing down on the sheep. When the wolves arrive, Jesus draws their attention to Himself and away from His sheep (8). A good shepherd shields those who are entrusted to him from harm. B. Correcting the Sheep (Eph 6:4; Col 3:21; Heb 12:9-10) Second, faithful shepherds the sheep when they go astray. Peter pulls out his sword and lops off Malchus' ear. What does Jesus do? He corrects Peter and brings Peter back to the plan of God. "Put your sword into the sheath, Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?" (11) As fathers, our task is to correct our sheep when they wander astray. Paul commands fathers, "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Eph 6:4). Again, he writes, "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged" (Col 3:21). Finally, he writes, "Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness" (Heb 12:9-10). All this leads us to the same conclusion: are to correct their kids. C. Dying for the Sheep Finally, faithful shepherds _____ for their sheep when necessary. Jesus' sacrifice for His people is completely voluntary. He didn't have to die. He died for us because He loves us. Note John 10:17-18 ¹⁷Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. ¹⁸No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

V. Conclusion