

PREDICTING THE DISCIPLES' FAILURE AND RESTORATION

(Matthew 26:31-35)

I. Demonstrating Jesus' OMNISCIENCE (Matt. 26:31-32)

A. The dire PREDICTION (26:31)

1. Jesus KNEW what would happen to HIM (31*b*; cf. 26:2, 12, 26-29)
 - a. He was the SHEPHERD who would be STRUCK DOWN (cf. Zech. 13:7)
 - b. The "FLOCK" would be SCATTERED
 - 1) Broadly, referred to the DISPERSAL of ISRAEL after AD 70
 - 2) Specifically, referred to the FLEEING of the DISCIPLES at Jesus' ARREST (cf. Mark 14:50)
2. Jesus KNEW how His DISCIPLES would REACT (31*a*)
 - a. He would be ABANDONED by ALL OF THEM
 - b. It would happen THAT NIGHT

B. The divine PROMISE (26:32)

1. He would RISE from the DEAD
2. He would MEET THEM in GALILEE (cf. 28:7)

- a. Implies the BREVITY of their FAILURE and SEPARATION
- b. Implies FORGIVENESS for FORSAKING Him
- c. Implies RESTORATION to FELLOWSHIP with Him

II. Declaring the Disciples' WEAKNESS (Matt. 26:33-35)

A. Their UNFOUNDED CONFIDENCE

- 1. Peter arrogantly DECLARED that Jesus was WRONG
- 2. They all AFFIRMED they'd DIE with Him before DENYING Him

B. The UNHAPPY REALITY

- 1. The others would DISTANCE themselves from Him
- 2. Peter would DENY Him THREE TIMES that night

III. Displaying Jesus' SOVEREIGN GLORY

A. Their IMPOTENCE magnified Jesus' POWER

B. Their FAITHLESSNESS magnified Jesus' FAITHFULNESS

C. Their DISHONOR magnified Jesus' MAJESTY