

Apply The Word

www.crosswaypa.org



Message Info

Title:

His Seat, Our Stand

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

November 30th, 2025

Scriptures:

Matthew 26:47–75

Theme: The Son of Man has taken his seat so let us take our stand.

Introduction: As Matthew's Gospel account gets closer to the crucifixion, a clearer contrast is made between good and evil. This contrast is meant to point people to their desperate need for exactly what Jesus accomplished; the atonement of sins on behalf of sinners. Moreover, Jesus not only died, but was resurrected and is seated in power. This reality gives us all the more reason to follow him. Our Lord's completed work should put away fear of man and put courage into us.

The text of Matthew 26:47–75 contains three contrasts that bring revelation and compel us to stand for the Lord:

1. The Trap of Man Reveals God's Plan (47–56)

- In the middle of the night, Judas brings the chief priests and elders to Jesus to arrest him. It is a large crowd, likely over 100 men.
- Despite the apparent effectiveness of their arrest, Jesus reveals God's complete sovereignty over that very moment.
- Jesus's perfect response against unlawful order consists of grace and mercy, and it reveals the powerful reality that he does not have to take any of what is before him.
- Jesus endures this not because he cannot save himself, but so that the Scriptures would be fulfilled.

2. Rigged Justice Reveals His Power (57–68)

- Jesus is brought before a "Kangaroo Court" consisting of false witnesses and incomplete testimonies in a courtroom full of religious leaders seeking false testimony.
- The high priest eventually asks him directly if he is the Christ, and Jesus makes clear he is much more than an insurrectionist; he is God.
- The rigged justice highlights the truth of Jesus's statements.

3. The Last Abandonment Reveals the Last Adam (69–75)

- Peter, the one who was usually the most vocal supporter of Jesus, denies Jesus on three different occasions.
- In his final denial, he swears (contra Jesus's teaching in Matt 5:33).
- Peter's denials remind us that no matter how strong we think we are, our confidence should never be in our strength.
- Peter's denial is contrasted with Jesus's true confession.

Questions:

1. How does God's sovereignty in the arrest of Jesus comfort and assure you?
2. How can you learn from Peter's denial of Jesus?
3. In what ways can you take a stand for the Lord, by his grace?