



The Chosen

Episode #7 (Season #2)

“Reckoning”

Jesus and the disciples prepare for a big sermon and gathering- one that will define their ministry. But they aren't the only ones that have plans related to their ministry- troubles are closing in too.

Season 1 ended with Praetor Quintus ordering that Jesus of Nazareth be detained for questioning. This plot, left dangling, finally resurfaces here in Episode 7, as Quintus learns of the whereabouts of Jesus and a detachment of soldiers is sent to bring Jesus in for questioning.

The potential arrest of Jesus creates a minor crisis among the disciples, as they debate whether to follow Jesus' instruction to wait peacefully or to go and try to set him free instead – either by petition or by force.

Along the way, Andrew and Philip discover that the paralytic who was healed and his Ethiopian friend have been witnessing about Jesus' miracles and are causing a stir. Andrew worries that the Romans might respond to Jesus by swatting him down, just as Herod swatted John the Baptist down.

Scripture to read this week *(check the box when you've read the passage):*

- ☐ Matthew 4:12-17
- ☐ Luke 11:1-13
- ☐ Proverbs 3:5-6
- ☐ Matthew 10:24-39
- ☐ 2 Timothy 1:6-11

Jotapota

While traveling to Jotapota, Gaius and Atticus discuss the state of Jotapota. Atticus describes the four sects of Jews found there and that the praetor there held his power loosely compared to elsewhere.

The ancient historian, Josephus, reports Jotapota as the site of a famous battle during the Jewish revolt against the Romans. Because of the great concentration of all Jewish sects, especially the Zealots, this city put up a long and bloody battle but was eventually defeated. The residents were killed or enslaved by the Romans.



False Witness

Shmuel and Yanni reacted with stunned silence when Yussif asked, “And what if you discover the healing was not on Shabbat?”. Why such stress? Because if they accused Jesus of healing on Shabbat and that was not true, they would be considered false witnesses. And the Bible says false witnesses are to be punished.



If a malicious witness rises up against a man to accuse him of wrongdoing, then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges...The judges shall investigate thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness and he has accused his brother falsely, then you shall do to him just as he had intended to do to his brother. Thus you shall purge the evil from among you. The rest will hear and be afraid, and will never again do such an evil thing among you. Thus you shall not show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. Deut. 19:16-21

Depending on what punishment Shmuel & Yanni had in mind for Jesus (the penalty for blasphemy was stoning), their being incorrect in what they accused him of would bring that down on them! They were in a serious situation, and it was critically important that their testimony was correct!

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- ❶ Which groups and people are tracking down Jesus and why?
- ❷ How do you tend to pray and do you think of it as a significant practice?
- ❸ After the Romans take Jesus away, the disciples quickly devolve into bickering with one another and making rude comments. What do you think they were feeling that made them act that way?
- ❹ When you feel under pressure, do you ever find yourself fighting with others and making rude comments more easily?
- ❺ How did Jesus respond to the fear in his disciples upon His return to the camp? Why do you think He responded this way?



Thank your Heavenly Father for His gift of eternal life. Thank Him also for Jesus' example for us. Ask Him to help you follow Christ more closely, to trust Him more fully and to live for Him more openly.