

INTRO: 'Mob' to me, connotes a large number of people acting in a disorderly manner. I do not like mobs. I have personally been greatly inconvenienced by an unruly mob; my daughter endangered by a mob. I don't like that mob in Gethsemane, either.

I. GOD SHOWED HIS POWER TO A MOB

A. In Gethsemane

1. Judas led the mob
 - a. squad (**speiron**) of soldiers; w/swords; Roman? (Acts 10:1 Cornelius)
 - b. officers from chief priests, w/clubs (billy clubs; night stick)
 - c. Mark & Luke say 'crowd'; Matthew says 'great crowd'
 - d. after kiss, Judas stood with them (symbolically, literally)
2. Jesus takes the initiative away from them
 - a. v.4 - knowing all...came forward and said...
 - b. addresses Judas: "Betrayest thou the Son of Man...(repent)"
 - c. asks mob "Whom seek ye?" (He knew; chance to show His power)
3. See what God's Word can do!
 - a. "I'm He" = two Greek words; cp burning bush "I AM"
 - b. they fell backward to the ground; not forward feint; not kneeling...
 - c. John (v.6) says **When** He said 'I am He' they fell (cause/effect)
 - d. proof to me of Divine Power!

B. God shows His power in so many ways

1. In so many other ways
 - a. Jesus' raising Lazarus at Bethany; local healings, esp. Malchus' ear
 - b. walking on water; stilling storm, feeding 5,000 in Galilee
 - c. throughout history: Flood; Sodom; 40 years of manna; Red Sea
2. The whole Creation shows God's power
 - a. Ps. 19 - The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament...
 - b. Ps. 14 - The fool hath said in his heart there is no God
 - c. so, having seen God's power (falling; ear) did this mob learn anything
(*read luke 22:20-23*)

II. SINNERS SHOUT IN GOD'S FACE

A. Outside Pilate's judgment hall

1. undoubtedly some members common to both mobs
2. yelling to have God's Son crucified
3. He had done them no harm, only good
4. He, true God, was rejected by that mob (symbolic of all)
5. Jesus Derangement Syndrome; incomprehensible; disregarding evidence
(continued)

B. Media and Academia lure us into their mob

1. bombarded with homosexual lifestyle; even in churches
2. public figures flaunting extra-marital relations
3. internet and TV shouting disrespectfully in God's face

C. Even some of us little people have our day

1. taking credit for talents, achievements
2. blowing off opportunities to credit God for all good things
3. "have a nice day" vs. "God bless your day"
4. aren't we a miserable mob!

III. GOD ACCOMPLISHES HIS PURPOSES

A. Through His Son

1. v.9 (John) this was to fulfill...(Gethsemane)
 - a. referring immediately to disciples' escape (and more)
 - b. Jesus is still in charge, ordering "Let these go"
 - c. had to be according to God's plan ("I lay down My life...")
2. Gethsemane prayer "Thy will be done"
3. God allowed evil mob to crucify the Lamb of God
4. from this evil, God made payment for all sins of all the world
5. including 'mobsters' then and now

B. For each person in the world, for all time

1. But God does not come to save us by means of His power
2. His omnipotence defeated death and the Devil, of course
3. He offers His gracious spiritual blessings through means
 - a. baptism, not simple water, saves (1 Peter); regenerates (John 3); forgives sins and gives gift of Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38f)
 - b. Word alone, as "I am He" (Rom. 1:16 I am not ashamed...;
Rom. 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by...)
 - c. for disciples, special Sacrament "given and shed for you for the remission of sins"

CONCLUSION: Jesus said that the number of people going to eternal punishment exceeds the number of people going to heaven.

Our goal is to avoid that mob going to eternal damnation. It's called 'hell.'

God's Son Jesus is the victorious Savior. God laid upon Him the iniquity of us all. All who trust Him alone for full and free forgiveness shall be saved on the Day of God's judgment. Amen.