

Taking Some Time to Reconnect with God

April I, 2020

Prayer:

O Lord, no one on earth knows the hour of Your return. Only keep us watchful and awake, that we might always be at work in Your kingdom, for the sake of Jesus, amen.

R∈ad: Mark 14:1-2

Mark 14:1-2 New International Version (NIV)

14 Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ² "But not during the festival," they said, "or the people may riot."

Reflect:

Well, *that* sounds dreadfully familiar. Not so much "kill Jesus," but the part about scheming to do things secretly. People—leaders—plotting to do a thing that they know people will be opposed to vehemently, opposed to the point of riot. But sneaking around to do it anyway.

My rule of thumb is: If you're doing something that you feel like you need to hide from people, then you probably shouldn't be doing it. Christmas presents and surprise parties aside, to be honest, I can't think of a single time when I've broken that rule that it worked out that I should have been doing whatever it was I was doing. I can't even think of an exception that proves the rule. I've always been wrong if I was sneaking around.

God can certainly use evil—including our mistakes, our sin—to accomplish good things (Romans 8:28). It's hard for me to think of anything that has had a more positive effect on the human race than the Crucifixion of Jesus. That doesn't make these guys right when they were scheming and sneaking around. It doesn't make us right when we do things that we'd be ashamed if others knew about it.

Is there something in your life that needs to see the light of the Gospel—so that you can be set free?

Be Blessed:

May you find peace in the life of day to day, trusting that God will keep you in the fold even at the end. Amen.