

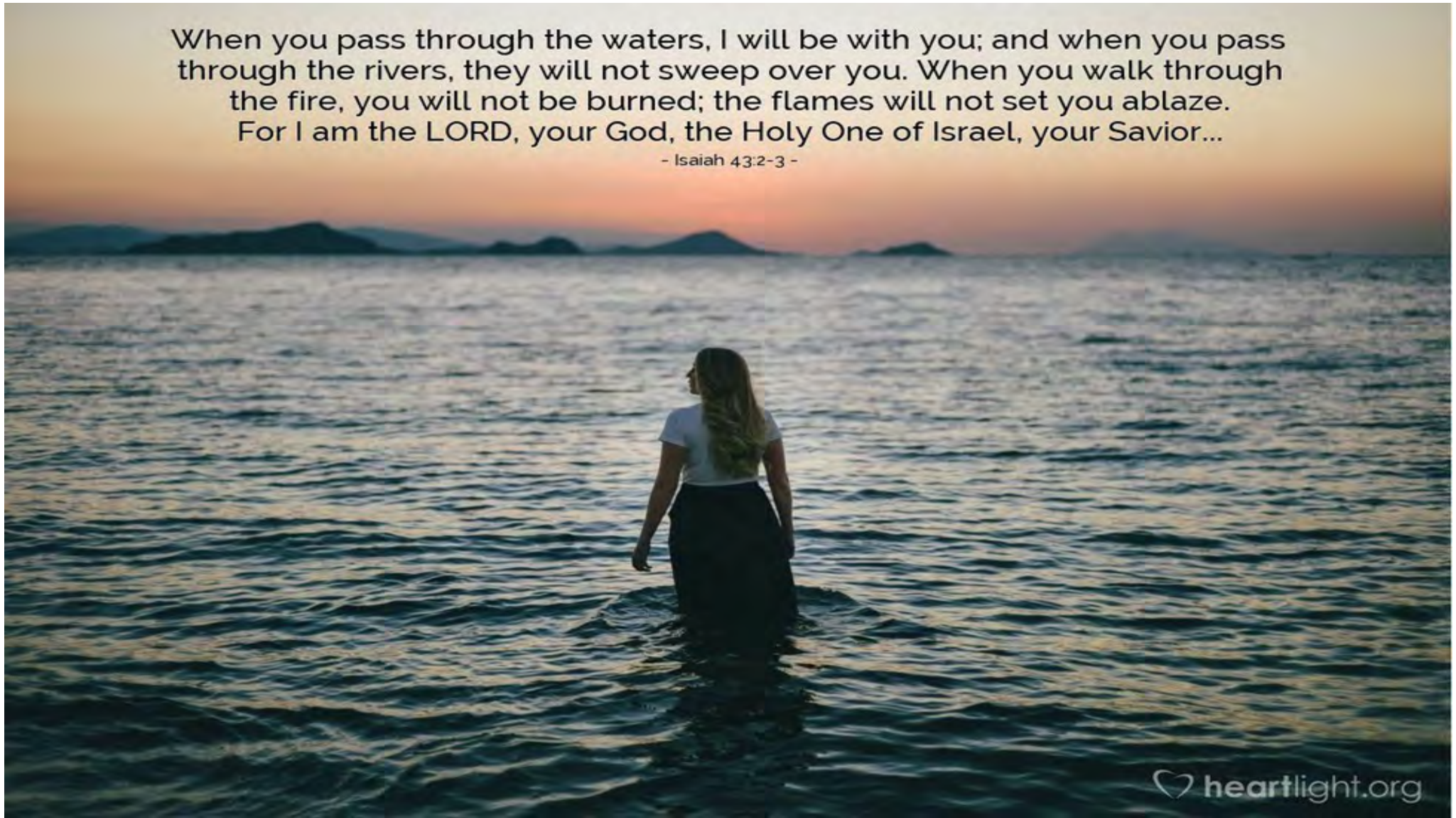
# **Betrayal and Desertion – *Part of the Plan***

**Matthew 26: 47-56**

**November 26, 2023**

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

- Isaiah 43:2-3 -



**Verse 47 - 50**

**The Betrayal**

**We must realize that betrayal was part of the plan; *this fulfilled prophecy!***

**Jesus would be betrayed by a friend:**

***“Friend, why have you come?”***

**This fulfilled prophecy, Psalm 41: 9, which Jesus quoted in John 13: 18**

**Many in the Church are like Judas, profess Christ and abandon Christ**

**The parable of the soils helps us with who are really saved – *genuine!***

**In the end, it is all about fruit**

**What is fruit?**

*Character change, life change, growth change*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

*~ Galatians 5:22-24*

**When a person becomes a Christian, there are expectations of that person:**

**OBEY JESUS!**

**Don't do what everyone else is doing!**

**It is doubtful that the majority are ever correct!**

**Verse 51 - 54**

**An emboldened Peter**



When Peter saw what Jesus did, soldiers falling like pickup sticks, he thought, *“Now is the time!”*



**Who is really in charge?**

**JESUS!**

Jesus then commands, “. . . ***let these go their way***”

What Peter saw, and when he heard this command, Peter leaped into action

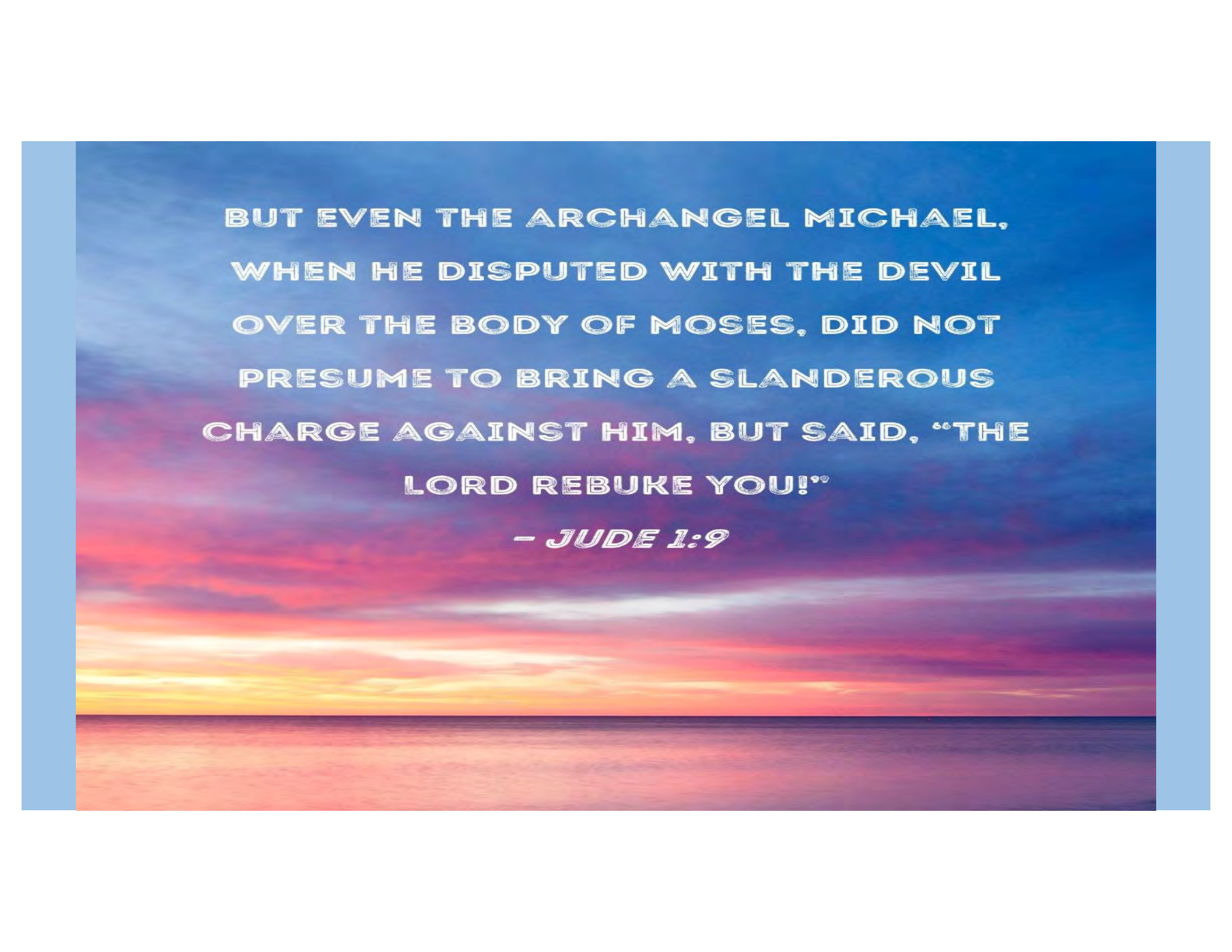
**He takes his sword and cuts off the right ear of Malchus, the high priest's servant**

**Jesus commands Peter , put away your sword**

The Kingdom is not yet; it will come, but first Jesus must die for the sins of the world

**Jesus tells Peter, I could have called down twelve legions (72,000) of angels**

Don't mess with angels; we are told not to disrespect fallen angels



BUT EVEN THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL,  
WHEN HE DISPUTED WITH THE DEVIL  
OVER THE BODY OF MOSES, DID NOT  
PRESUME TO BRING A SLANDEROUS  
CHARGE AGAINST HIM, BUT SAID, "THE  
LORD REBUKE YOU!"

*- JUDE 1:9*

**Realize who you are in Christ – *a formidable warrior with the armor of God!***

**You have all the authority of heaven to resist the wiles of the devil**

**You have a powerful weapon, the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God – **Ephesians 6: 17****

**How do you use your sword?**

***Speak the Word out loud, put into action!***

**AMAZING FACTS**

Therefore submit to God. **Resist** the devil and he will flee from you.

**Draw near** to God and He will draw near to you.

James 4:7,8



THE LORD

WILL FIGHT

FOR YOU;

YOU NEED ONLY TO

*Be Still*

Exodus 14:14



Verse 55 – 56a

**Jesus to the multitudes**



*“I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple,  
and you did not seize Me.”*

They did not seize Him because they could not  
seize Him, it was not His time

**Jesus is in full control, even in this dark hour; His  
arrest is all part of the plan**

**Verse 56b**

**The desertion**

**When Jesus let them bind Him, all the disciples stumbled and ran away to safety**

Jesus told them multiple times that He would die and raise from the dead -

[Luke 9: 22](#)

[John 2: 19](#)

[Matthew 16: 21](#)

*Don't let fear affect your faith!*

**What was their problem?**

*They let Jesus' words about suffering and dying blow past them*

## CLOSING THOUGHTS:

The disciples could not fathom the plan, *most can't!*

God knew the disciples would betray and desert Him; **prophecy fulfillment was the PLAN!**

**At some level, we all enter into betrayal and desertion -**

Every time we sin, it is a betrayal of our Lord

Every time we sin, we desert God for that moment

## Paul expresses our greatest plan – to know Christ!

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*



-- *Philippians 3:10-11 (NIV)*

Hold lightly to your plans and be prepared for a plan change – Proverbs 16: 9

The greatest PLAN is to **Know Him**

The greatest PLAN is to **Serve Him**

The greatest PLAN is to **Enjoy Him** forever

***GOD MADE A PLAN!!***