

With Jesus in the Garden ~ Matthew 26:36-56

→ Scripture Reading John 11:47-50, Matt. 26:14-15

INTRODUCTION

John 11:48 (NLT) If we allow Him to go on like this, soon everyone will BELIEVE in Him. Then the Roman army will come and DESTROY both our Temple and our nation.

WATCHING and PRAYING with Jesus ~ Matthew 26:36-46

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." ³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Mark 14:36 (NIV) Abba, Father, He said, everything is possible for YOU. Take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what YOU will."

⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour? He asked Peter. ⁴¹ Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." ⁴² He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." ⁴³ When he came back, He again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.

Luke 22:43-44 (NIV) An ANGEL from heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him. ⁴⁴ And being in anguish, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat was like drops of BLOOD falling to the ground.

⁴⁴ So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. ⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Luke 22:45 (NIV) ...He found them asleep, exhausted from SORROW.

IMPLICATION

LESSONS From the GARDEN...

1- Jesus's DEATH was by His own CHOICE

Mark 8:31 (NIV) He then began to teach them that the Son of Man MUST suffer many things and be REJECTED by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He MUST be KILLED and after three days rise again.

2- Jesus died because He Surrendered to God's PURPOSES

Philippians 2:6, 8 (JBP) He, who had always been God by NATURE, did not cling to His prerogatives as God's equal, but stripped Himself of ALL privilege... ⁸ And, having become man, He humbled Himself by living a life of UTTER OBEDIENCE, even to the extent of dying...

John 12:27 (NIV) Now My heart is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save ME from this hour? NO, it was FOR this very reason I CAME to THIS hour.

3- We have the FREEDOM to Pour our Hearts out to God

³⁹ ...He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from ME

Psalms 62:5-8 (NLT) ⁵ Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my HOPE is in Him. ⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. ⁷ My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. ⁸ O my people, trust in Him at all times. **Pour OUT your heart to Him, for God IS our refuge.**

4- God SAID NO to His ONLY Son

The BETRAYAL of Jesus ~ Matthew 26:47-56

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came for." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹ With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵² Put your sword back in its place, Jesus said to him, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.

John 18:10-11 (NIV) Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear... ¹¹ Jesus commanded Peter, Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the CUP the Father has given me?

Luke 22:51 (NIV) ...No more of this! And HE touched the man's ear and HEALED him.

⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and He will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" ⁵⁵ At that time Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a REBELLION, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Zechariah 13:7 (NIV) ...Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn my hand against the little ones.

APPLICATION

→ Jesus was in CONTROL of Everything that Happened

⁵⁰ Jesus replied, Friend, DO what you came for...

John 13:27 (NIV) As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. What you are about to do, do quickly, Jesus told him...

Mark 10:45 (NIV) For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Jesus' whole LIFE was about...

- Fulfilling Scripture
- Fulfilling God's PLAN

Matthew 11:3 (NIV) ³ ...Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?

Matthew 11:4-5 (NIV) ⁴ Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.

John 19:15 (NIV) But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

TAKE AWAY ??

AT THE CROSS...

➤ God Poured Out His WRATH on Sin

2 Cor. 5:21 (NIV) God made Him who had NO sin to BE sin for us, so that IN HIM we might become the righteousness of God.

➤ Jesus Payed in FULL for ALL OUR sins

1 Pet. 3:18 (NIV) For Christ died for sins ONCE FOR ALL, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God...

➤ God offers Salvation FREELY to all who BELIEVE

Rom. 3:22 (NLT) We are made right with God by placing our FAITH in Jesus Christ. And this is TRUE for everyone who BELIEVES, no matter who we are.