

Matthew 26:56 "But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted Him and fled."

At Gethsemane
Matthew 26:36-56
Palm Sunday
3/24/24

The Lessons of Gethsemane

A. There is a sinister foe who seeks to destroy us.

I Peter 5:8 "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Luke 22:3 "Satan entered Judas called Iscariot, one of the Twelve."

Luke 22:31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat."

Ephesians 6;12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

B. There is a daily spiritual battle, so don't skip prayer.

Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Ephesians 6:18 "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

C. There is strength provided by God as we submit to the Lord.

James 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and He will flee from you."

I. Jesus planned to pray at Gethsemane.

A. He stated His desire to pray.

Matthew 26:30 "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

John 18:1 "When He had finished praying, Jesus left with His disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side was an olive grove and He and His disciples went into it."

Matthew 26:36 "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."

B. He selected some of His disciples to pray.

Matthew 26:37a "He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with Him"

I Corinthians 10:12 "So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!"

C. He sorrowed as prepared to pray.

Matthew 26:37b "... and He began to be sorrowful and troubled."

Matthew 26:38a "Then He said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death"

Matthew 26:38b "... Stay here and keep watch with me."

D. He surrendered to the Father's will as He prayed.

Matthew 26:39 "Going a little further, 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."

Matthew 6:6 "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Luke 22:41 “He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed.”

Matthew 26:39a ... “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Luke 22:43 “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.”

Hebrews 10:5 “Therefore, when Christ came into the world, He said: “Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ^[6] with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ^[7] Then I said, ‘Here I am – it is written about me in the scroll – I have come to do your will, O God.’”

John 10:18 “No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I receive from my Father.”

II. Jesus presented a warning to the disciples.

Matthew 26:40 “Then He returned to His disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour? He asked Peter.”

Matthew 26:41 “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the body is weak.”

1 Peter 5:8 “Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17 “Pray continually.”

Matthew 26:31 “Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: “I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.”

Mark 14:30 “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “today – yes, tonight – before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.”

Matthew 26:42 “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.”

Matthew 26:43 “When He came back, He again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.”

Matthew 26:44 “So He left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.”

Luke 22:45 “When He rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, He found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow.”

Matthew 26:45 “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.”

Matthew 26:46 “Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

III. Jesus was placed under arrest by His enemies at Gethsemane.

A. Judas and the mob arrived at Gethsemane.

Matthew 26:47 “While He was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from chief priests and the elders of the people.”

B. Judas arranged a signal before arriving at Gethsemane.

Matthew 26:48 “Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest Him.”

Matthew 26:49 “Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.”

C. Judas had Jesus arrested.

Matthew 26:50 “Jesus replied, “Friend,” do what you came for.” Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested Him.”

Matthew 26:51 “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.”

Matthew 26:52 “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.”

Matthew 26:53 “Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and He will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?”

Matthew 26:54 “But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?”

Matthew 26:55 “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.”