

## THE GETHSEMANE PRAYER

It was evening when Jesus left the last Passover meal with His disciples. They traveled to the foot of the Mount of Olives where Jesus delivered the Passover (Olivet) Discourse to His disciples (Mark 14:26-31).

After the Passover (Olivet) Discourse, they crossed the Brook Kidron and entered the Garden of Gethsemane. The Garden of Gethsemane was one of Jesus' favorite places for prayer (John 18:1-2).

Upon reaching the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him to a special place of prayer within the garden (14:33).

We will study our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

- The Place (14:32) Gethsemane – geographical will
- The People (14:33-34) Guards (remain and watch/ commands) – operation will
- The Prayer (14:35-36) Grief (Lk 22:43-44) – mental will
- The Problem (14:37-40) Gloom (Lk 22:45) watch and pray/ commands, mental & operational will
- The Plan (14:41-42) God's will – geographical, mental, operational

**This lesson will study SIX aspects of THE GETHSEMANE PRAYER of Jesus Christ, the day of His crucifixion**  
***“You know that after 2 days, Passover is coming and the Son of Man is to be delivered up for crucifixion.” (Matt.26:2)***

**1. The writer of Hebrews discusses the agony in the life of Jesus the day of His crucifixion (Heb.5:7-10/ supplication, suffering, and source of eternal salvation).**

“Jesus did not shrink from physical suffering and death, but from the indescribable agony of taking mankind's sin on Himself (Matt.27:46).” (NIV, Heb.5:7)

“And being agony (agonia/ severe emotional strain) He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.” (Luke 22:44)

“Possibly hematidrosis the actual mingling of blood and sweat as in cases of extreme anguish, strain or sensitivity.” (NIV, Luke 22:44)

**2. The psychological components of the agony associated with His Gethsemane prayer were deep distress and trouble and sorrow regarding the impending spiritual death of the cross.**

“And He began to be *very distressed (ekthambeo/ p.p.infin)* and *troubled (ademoneo/ p.a.infin)* He said to them, ‘My soul is *deeply grieved (perilupos/ encompassed with grief)* to the point of death.’ (Mark 14:33-34)

His psychological burden was to bear the sin and judgment of the entire world (2 Cor.5:21; 1 John 3:5; Rom.4:25; 8:3; Heb.9:28; John 9:39; 1 John 4:10).

Isn't it interesting that His spiritual struggle is shown to us?

### 3. **The Gethsemane prayer of Jesus wasn't a struggle over the will of God but the fulfillment of it.**

“And He was saying (lego/ impf.a.ind), ‘Abba! Father! All things are possible for Thee; remove (paraphero/ a.a.impv.2ps) this cup (touto to poterion) from Me; yet not what I will (thelo/p.a.ind), but what Thou wilt.’” (14:37)

There were four interesting issues involved in the Gethsemane prayer: the hour; cup; the will; and the angel.

**The hour** is mentioned in 14:35 – “And began to pray that if it were possible, the hour might pass Him by.” (John 2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23,27; 13:1) We had previous information of the coming of the hour now we have the HOUR (the betrayal, arrest, crucifixion; Matt.16:21; 17:22-23; 20:18\_19; 26:2).

**The cup** is mentioned in 14:36a – “Remove this cup from Me.” (Matt.20:22; 26:39) The only way for the cup to pass away was for Jesus to drink it – “My Father, if (1cc) this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Thy will be done.” (Matt.26:42, 45-46/ the last 3 hours of the crucifixion)

**The will** is mentioned in 14:36b – “Yet not what I will, but what Thou wilt.” (Phil.2:7-8 – “He humbled Himself by *becoming obedience* to the point of death, even the death on a cross.”) (Heb.5:8 – “Although He was a Son, He *learned obedience* from the things which He suffered.”)

**The angel** is mentioned in Luke 22:43 - “Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.” Jesus’ ministry began and ended with great temptations and ministering angels (Matt.4:1-11; Luke 22:43-44).

### 4. **Jesus Christ taught that prayer is an important factor in overcoming agonizing temptation (14:38).**

- “Keep watching (gregoreo/ p.a.impv) and praying (proseuchomai/ p.m.impv) (2 commands),
- (hina me/ two commands are preventive) that you may not come into temptation (peirasmos),
- (*men/ on the one hand*) the spirit is willing (prothumos),
- *but (de/ on the other hand)* the flesh is weak (asthenes).” (14:38)

These three disciples were a case at hand (14:40) as well as Jesus. They missed the experience of seeing it work in the life of Jesus (1 Cor.1:25).

### 5. **These three disciples failed in the presence of Jesus because of NV towards doctrinal truth (Matt.16:21-23; Luke 22:45-46).**

“He came to the disciples and found them SLEEPING FROM SORROW, and said to them, ‘Why are you sleeping? RISE and PRAY that you may NOT enter into TEMPTATION.’” (Luke 22:45-46)

What was their sorrow? (read answer - Matt.16:22-23; 17:23 – deeply grieved)

*Was Jesus’ Gethsemane prayer answered? (Mark 14:35-36)*

### 6. **“His prayer was granted by the Father who saved Him from death through resurrection.” (NIV, Heb.5:7)**

“He was heard because of His reverent submission.” (NIV, Heb.5:7) (Read/ Acts 2:22-36; 13:23-39)