

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

June 10, 2020

The Garden of Gethsemane and Arrest of Jesus

Text – Luke 22:35 - 53

Introduction (Luke 22:35 – 38)

Last week we studied examined the denial of Peter, but we also looked beyond that spiritual failure and examined his recovery from John 20 and then his spirit-filled ministry as is recorded in the Book of Acts. Tonight we will study the Lord's prayer time in the Garden of Gethsemane, his betrayal by Judas, and his arrest by the religious leaders. Note the order of events below and consider some of the things that happened during this time, but were excluded in Luke's narrative.

Chronological Order of Events from the Last Supper through the Crucifixion:

1. The Last Supper (Matthew 26:26 – 29; Mark 14:22 – 25; Luke 22:14 – 23)
2. Contention As To Who Is Greatest (Luke 22:24 – 30)
3. Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet (John 13:1 – 17)
4. Judas is Identified as the Betrayer (Matthew 26:20 – 25; Mark 14:17 – 21; John 13:18 – 35)
5. They Sing a Hymn and Leave the Upper Room (Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26; John 14:31)
6. The Disciples and Peter's Denial Foretold (Matthew 26:31 – 34; Mark 14:27 – 31; Luke 22:31 – 38; John 13:36 - 38)
7. Jesus Comforts the Disciples and Speaks of the Holy Spirit (John 14:1 – 30)
8. Farewell Discourse (John 15:1 – 16:33)
 - a. The True Vine
 - b. Warning of Persecution
 - c. Comfort for the Disciples
 - d. The Coming of the Comforter
9. The Real Lord's Prayer (John 17)
- 10. The Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:35 – 46; Mark 14:32 – 42; Luke 22:39 – 46; John 18:1)**
- 11. Jesus Arrested (Matthew 26:47 – 56; Mark 14:43 – 52; Luke 22:47 – 53; John 18:2 – 11)**
12. Jesus Is Brought Before Annas (John 18:12 – 14, 19 - 23)
13. Jesus Is Brought Before Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57, 59 – 68; Mark 14:53, 55 – 65; Luke 22:54, 63 - 65; John 18:24)

14. Peter's Denials (Matthew 26:58, 69 – 75; Mark 14:54, 66 – 72; Luke 22:55 – 62; John 18:15 – 18, 25 – 27)
 15. Jesus Condemned By the Sanhedrin (Matthew 27:1 - 2; Mark 15:1; Luke 22:66 – 71)
 16. Suicide of Judas (Matthew 27: 3 – 10)
 17. Jesus First Appearance Before Pilate (Matthew 27:11 – 14; Mark 15:2 – 5; Luke 23:1 – 5; John 18:28 – 38)
 18. Jesus Appears Before Herod (Luke 23:6 – 12)
 19. Jesus Second Appearance Before Pilate and Release of Barabbas (Matthew 27:15 – 26; Mark 15:6 – 15; Luke 23:13 – 25; John 18:39 – 40)
 20. Jesus Mocked and Beaten and Final Sentence Pronounced (Matthew 27:27 – 31; Mark 15:16 – 19; John 19:1 – 16)
 21. Journey to Golgotha (Matthew 27:32 – 34; Mark 15:20 – 23; Luke 23:26 – 32; John 19:17)
 22. The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:35 – 44; Mark 15:24 – 32; Luke 23:33 – 43; John 19:18 – 27)
 23. The Last Hours (Matthew 27:45 – 50; Mark 15:33 – 37; Luke 23:44 – 46; John 19:28 – 37)
 24. Miraculous Occurrences at the Cross (Matthew 27:51 – 56; Mark 15:38 – 41; Luke 23:47 – 49)
 25. Jesus' Burial (Matthew 27:57 – 61; Mark 15:42 – 47; Luke 23:50 – 56; John 19:38 – 42)
 26. Pilate Seals the Tomb (Matthew 27:62 – 66)
- I. **Jesus Petition in the Garden** (Luke 22:39 – 46)

There are several principles that we can pull out of this passage that will be helpful to us today as we go through grief.

A. It was Jesus regular practice to go to a quiet place in order to pray. (Luke 22:39 – “as he was wont”)

“And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.” - (Matthew 14:23)

“And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.” - (Mark 1:35)

“And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.” - (Luke 5:16)

You need to find a quiet place where you can get away to pray, to think, and to clear your head.

B. Extreme sorrow and stress can produce severe physical symptoms.

"And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch." - (Mark 14:33-34)

"And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." - (Luke 22:44)

C. Others will not be able to completely identify with what you are going through.

Three times the disciples fell asleep, when Jesus was in complete agony. They were sorrowful too, but they couldn't completely put themselves in Jesus' shoes.

D. God will not always take the pain away, but He will strengthen you.

"And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him." (Luke 22:43)

Paul wanted God to remove his thorn, but God didn't do it.

"And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." - (2 Corinthians 12:7-9)

Why? Why would God want Paul to endure the thorn? Why wouldn't God let the cup pass from His own Son? Why is He not healing Melissa Dilley right now?

Maybe He has a greater purpose in the suffering. Jesus had to go through what all men go through:

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." - (Hebrews 4:15)

Maybe He wants us to be able to better identify with other people who suffer.

Maybe He wants to remind all of us that this isn't Heaven.

Maybe He wants to add a depth to your life.

Maybe He wants to take you to another level.

Maybe He just wants you to trust Him.

E. Prayer in itself will strengthen you

Jesus specifically addresses Peter when He says watch and pray that you enter not into temptation. Peter slept instead of praying, and He later denied the Lord. Perhaps He would have had the strength to pass that test, had he prayed with Jesus that night.

II. Jesus Apprehension in the Garden (Luke 22:47 – 53)

Chronological Order of Events in this text:

"When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples." - (John 18:1)

Note – John does not include the prayer that we covered last week in the Garden of Gethsemane.

"And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus oftentimes resorted thither with his disciples." - (John 18:2)

"Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons." - (John 18:3)

"And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people." - (Matthew 26:47)

"Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast." - (Matthew 26:48)

"And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him." - (Matthew 26:49)

"And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? (Matthew 26:50a)

"But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?" - (Luke 22:48)

"Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?" - (John 18:4)

"They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them." - (John 18:5)

"As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground." - (John 18:6)

"Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth." - (John 18:7)

"Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way:" - (John 18:8)

"That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none." - (John 18:9)

"Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus." - (John 18:10)

"And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him." - (Luke 22:51)

"Then said Jesus unto Peter, Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" - (John 18:11)

"Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." - (Matthew 26:52)

"Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" - (Matthew 26:53)

"Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him," - (John 18:12)

"But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled." - (Matthew 26:56)

"And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled." - (Matthew 26:57)

"But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end." - (Matthew 26:58)

"And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year." - (John 18:13)

"And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him:" - (Mark 14:51)

"And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked." - (Mark 14:52)

Note – this is most likely John Mark.

A. The Duplicity of a Friend – Jesus called him “friend.” Nothing hurts quite like the betrayal of a friend.

"Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." - (Psalm 41:9)

"For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company." - (Psalm 55:12-14)

"For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia." - (2 Timothy 4:10)

Yet – Jesus still called him friend. He was willing to forgive Judas. He was still willing to be a friend to Judas, even though Judas wasn't being a friend to him.

B. A Demonstration of Power (John 18:4 – Matthew 26:53 on chronological list above)

Note that true power does not have to prove itself. Jesus demonstrated more power in His restraint of power, than He would have with action.

1. The Power of the Word

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." - (Hebrews 4:12)

2. The Power of Authority

Jesus said that He could call down more than twelve legions of angels. A legion consisted of over 6100 footmen, and 726 horsemen - 6826 altogether. Jesus said that He could call down over 81,912 angels to fight this battle, but instead yielded to the will of God.

Many times it is best for you not to resist. Sometimes it is God's will for you to go through what you are going through.

"Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away." - (Matthew 5:38-42)

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." - (Romans 12:18-21)

C. The Distancing of the Disciples (John 18:12 – Mark 14:52 on chronological list above)

The disciples run for cover. Peter follows afar off.

There will be times in your life when your friends will distance themselves from you.

It could happen when you blow it.

It could happen when you are forced to make an unpopular decision.

Conclusion

In the ministry, there will be times when a friend will stab you in the back. When that happens, the best way to demonstrate your power and authority is by using the Word of God, and letting God take care of the situation. Defending yourself and seeking vengeance are really demonstrations of weakness and insecurity. Oftentimes, when the attacks come, even your close friends will distance themselves from you, and some may even abandon you.

Don't lose heart. Continue to love them and stay faithful to the mission. Eventually, God will turn the tables around.