

Mrk54 – **Agony in Gethsemane – Mark 14:32-41**

God, Became a Man (The Incarnation)

But – the REASON **God Became a Man** (in Jesus Christ)

Was to Live a SINLESS life – then to PAY the full penalty –
for YOUR Sin & MINE – on the Cross

& what that Sacrifice COST Jesus – we will never, ever
be able - to even begin to understand

But – Our text today - gives us – the Smallest Glimpse
of HOW DEEP that Cost was - for God

Today we get just a GLIMPSE – of Jesus Experiencing
the Deepest Agony the world has ever known

Let's Pray

Our focus today – is on what it COST Jesus
JUST to PREPARE - to go to the Cross

But - (knowing how Mark writes) - it's really interesting

That Mark SANDWICHES the Agonizing of Jesus
in the Garden of Gethsemane

BETWEEN – The DENIAL & BETRAYAL of the Disciples

BEFORE the **Agony of Jesus in Gethsemane**
Is a **PROPHECY** of **PETER'S DENIAL**

& **AFTER** the **Agony of Jesus in Gethsemane**
Is the **BETRAYAL** of **JUDAS ISCARIOT**

& **Right** in the **Middle** – Right **In-Between**
Man's Denial & **Man's Betrayal** →

Jesus is **Experiencing**
The **Immeasurable AGONY**

Of **Preparing** – to Freely **Offer US** (**Deniers** & **Betrayers**)
Forgiveness & **Eternal Life**

IF we would **TURN** from our **DENIAL** & **BETRAYAL**
& **EMBRACE** the **Price** He paid – **for our Salvation**

So - **Right BEFORE** the **Agony in Gethsemane**

Jesus tells the **11 Disciples** **"All of you will desert me."** (**V.27**)
& **they ALL DID**

BUT – Jesus **also told them** they would **RETURN** to him (**V.28**)
& **they ALL DID**

BUT – **Altho** this was **literally**

a **“Thus Sayeth the Lord”** situation - (*the Lord saying it*)

Peter, in his **typical fashion**

TELLS the **Lord** Jesus - **that he’s WRONG (V.29)**

Then Jesus gets more **SPECIFIC**

& **Peter** gets more **EMPHATIC**

That the **Lord**, **God in the Flesh** – is **WRONG**

& **Peter** – the **Prideful Fisherman** – is **RIGHT**

& **It’s** a **GREAT LESSON**

On **Prideful Presumption** - & **Self-Confidence**

that we’ll **pick up again** in a **few weeks**

So – **THAT** is **just BEFORE**

the **Agony in Gethsemane**

& **then** - **JUDAS ISCARIOT** –

Betraying Jesus – **TO His Death**

Is **just AFTER** the **Agony in Gethsemane**

& I think it's a Great Picture

of WHAT We have DONE – TO Jesus

& WHAT Jesus has DONE - FOR us
(in-spite of what we have done to him)

So – Sandwiched between
Man's DENIAL - & Man's BETRAYAL

We come to – the Agony in Gethsemane

(the previous conversation about Peter's DENIAL
Occurs ON THE WAY to Gethsemane)

& now - Mark 14:32 (NLT)

32 They went to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, "Sit here while I go and pray."

Gethsemane MEANS: OLIVE PRESS or OIL PRESS

& it perfectly depicts what Jesus is about to go thru

The Ancient Olive Press that we see in Israel today

Is a HUGE BEAM – with 3 sets of Huge Stones,
weighing up to 500 lbs a piece

& the press is made to CRUSH - THREE Times

& with EACH Crushing – or Pressing
another huge stone is added

Creating Multiplied PRESSURE - that eventually
Presses every last drop of LIFE out of an Olive

& THAT – is what Jesus is about to experience

As He is going into – the CRUSHING PRESS
Of Preparing for the Cross

& V.32 says Jesus had the Disciples
Stay in a place - while he went in to pray

We also visit (when we can) a GROTTO, or Cave
at the base of Gethsemane

Which would've been a likely place
for Jesus have the Disciples stay

possibly thinking - they would spend the night there

& then - Mark 14:33 says (NLT)

**33 He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became
deeply troubled and distressed.**

These are the closest – INNER 3
that Jesus wanted to be with him

AS he entered this *deeply troubling and distressing* time

These are the **same 3**
that **were with Jesus** on the **Mt of Transfiguration**

Where they **SAW** a **Glimpse of his Deity**

& **these** were the **same 3** that **were with Jesus**
when he raised **JAIRUS' DAUGHTER** from the **dead**

where they **saw** Jesus' **Power of Resurrection**

& **now** they are **with him** in the **Garden of Gethsemane**

where **Jesus desires** to **share** with **them**
the **Fellowship of his DEEPEST SUFFERING**

Guys - Jesus was **100% GOD - AND - 100% MAN**

Which is **WHY** – he was *deeply troubled and distressed*

Because **FIRST** - Jesus **KNEW**

he was **about** to **go** thru the **indescribable pain**
of the **torture** & **crucifixion** that **awaited him**

But **EVEN MORE SO** – **Jesus** was **entering**
a **time** of **Unparalleled AGONY**

because he **KNEW** – he was **about to bear**
the **Full & Complete PENALTY** – for the **Sin of the World**

Jesus KNEW – that **God’s Righteous Judgment** for Sin
MUST Fall upon **Him**

In order to **Make a Way** for it - to **NOT full upon US**

Jesus was **about** to **experience**

what 2 Corinthians 5:21 says (NLT)

21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Jesus was **about** to **experience**

what Galatians 3:13 says (NLT)

13 But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing . . .

& **Jesus KNEW** – in a **few short hours** –
after a **night** of **humiliation & torture**

That he **would cry out** on **the cross**

what we read in Mark 15:34 (ESV)

34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

God's answer to Jesus - was
... FOR DAVE ... & for YOU ...

& for ALL THOSE who would put their FAITH
in Jesus Christ – as their Savior

Jesus KNEW - WHY

But – he also knew he would have to experience

- every bit of the Penalty for our sin
 - every bit of the Horror of being separated from God –
so that WE would Never Have To Be
-

We CANNOT Grasp the Depth
of the HORROR, & the AGONY

that Jesus was experiencing here

when we read in - Mark 14:34 (NLT)

34 He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me

THAT is what the Olive Press does

It CRUSHES OUT every last drop of Life

& Jesus was IN – Gat-Semane – THE OLIVE PRESS

& the Horror that he was facing – FOR you & ME –
was Crushing him – to the point of DEATH

So – in V.34 – Jesus tells the inner 3
Stay here and keep watch with me

& then - Mark 14:35-36 (NLT)

35 He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting him might pass him by.

36 “Abba, Father,” (Daddy, Papa, it’s the CRY of a son who has always been ONE with his Father) *he cried out*, “everything is possible for you. Please (Abba, if possible) *take this cup of suffering away from me*. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

Jesus is praying – in the most Personal, Intimate, Relationship Terms - *ABBA FATHER, if there is any other way*

This is the CRY of THE HUMANITY of Jesus

BUT – it is also the CRY of THE DEITY of Jesus

Because as God – Jesus knew BOTH

- **The AGONY it would MEAN - for HIM**
- **The REWARD it would MEAN – for US**

Jesus KNEW – there was NO other way

to give us the Opportunity to Spend Eternity in God’s Presence

BUT – he was also Experiencing

the Greatest Agony Mankind would ever know – Preparing for it

Jesus is **IN** – the **CRUSHING PRESS**
of **preparing** to **DIE** for the **sins** of the **world**

& it **seems to me**
that **Jesus wanted** his **closest Disciples**

to carry this **unimaginable weight** **WITH HIM** – in **Prayer**

& so we read in Mark 14:37 (NLT)

***37 Then he returned and found the disciples asleep (including
Prideful & Presumptuous, Peter). He said to Peter, “Simon (that’s
Peter), are YOU asleep? Couldn’t YOU watch with me even one
hour?***

Peter - **In** your **pride** – you just **arrogantly announced**
you **would DIE** with **me**

but the truth is
you **can’t even** stay **awake** **to PRAY** with **me**

The word WATCH Means: to **be ALERT** – be **ON GUARD** –
To be **Praying with Purpose**

BUT – **Instead** of **Watching** & **Praying**
The **Disciples** were – **ASLEEP**

Because THEY **DIDN’T UNDERSTAND**
the **Sacrifice of Jesus**

& maybe – when it comes to Jesus
Maybe WE are ASLEEP – For the SAME Reason

Maybe WE are ASLEEP
to the Truths of Jesus & the Cross

Because WE Don't understand the Depth
of the Sacrifice that God HAS MADE

to give US the opportunity
to Live in his presence for Eternity – Thru Faith in Christ

So Now – Jesus is TRAINING His Disciples
IN His OWN Greatest Hour of NEED

Mark 14:38 (NLT)

38 Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”

Jesus is PLEADING with them –
because he knows – their OWN Hour of Suffering is coming

AND – he truly NEEDS their help right now

& so – Mark 14:39 (NLT)

39 Then Jesus left them again and prayed the same prayer as before.

This is the SECOND Crushing in the Olive Press

**If the first weight was 500 LBS
NOW it's 1,000 LBS**

**& again he cried out – ABBA, ABBA, Father.
if there is any other way to save mankind**

if there is any other way to Pay the penalty for THEIR SINS

**BUT – I know there is NOT
SO I am surrendered to YOUR WILL**

**& then – Dragging himself back
to where he left the inner three to intercede for him**

Mark 14:40 (NLT)

40 When he returned to them again, he found them sleeping, for they couldn't keep their eyes open. And they didn't know what to say.

I love the NLT – *they didn't know what to say*

Because they didn't understand

**The Depth of the Agony – Jesus was IN
Or the Depth of the Suffering He was FACING**

& within hours – Jesus will be praying – ON the CROSS

Father, Forgive them, they don't know what they are doing

NO ONE in this Text – **DESERVES**

The Sacrifice Jesus is **BECOMING**
For Their SALVATION

AND - NO ONE in **this room** - or **online**
Deserves it either

THAT is **why** – our **Salvation** comes – **BY FAITH ALONE**

& so **Jesus leaves** the **sleeping disciples**

& **Now** – with **all three stones**
of the Crushing Press - on him

LITERALLY the **Weight of the World**
is **Crushing** the **very last drop of life** out of **him**

It is HERE that **Dr Luke** writes

In Luke 22:44 (NLT)

44 He prayed more fervently, and he was in such agony of spirit that his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood.

Jesus prayed in **Increasing Agony - 3 times**

& 3 times he **lovingly surrendered** to the **Father's Will**

ALL - to **BE ABLE** – to **Freely Offer** us
Eternal Life in **His Name**

& in the end – Jesus faced
the Crushing AGONY of Gethsemane - ALONE

Tho His Agony was FOR US
He Faced it ALONE

Sandwiched between Man's DENIAL & Man's BETRAYAL

Mark 14:41-42 (NLT)

41 When he returned to them the third time, he said, “Go ahead and sleep. Have your rest. But no—the time has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

42 Up, let's be going. Look, my betrayer is here!”

The time had come

- Prophesied since the Fall of Man in Gen Ch 3
- Promised, Pictured, & Prophesied thru-out the O.T.

The hour of sacrifice – when Jesus would
DIE for the sins of the world – was here

HOW do we respond to the
AGONY in Gethsemane?

Can we casually, religiously,
put ourselves in these vs's – and NOT be MOVED

**With the Miraculous, Supernatural,
Divine PROOF of the Bible**

**& these 2,000 year old words Describing
what God-In-The-Flesh experienced on our behalf**

**HOW do we put ourselves in the Garden of Gethsemane
with the Son of God**

& NOT be Deeply Moved ??

God, became a Man, to live a Perfect Life

**& to DIE on the Cross –
to pay the full penalty for YOUR sin & MINE**

**& what that COST Jesus
we will never, ever - be able to begin to understand**

**We have only ONE of TWO Responses
To the PRICE that Jesus PAID on our behalf**

**We EITHER
RECEIVE his Free Gift of Forgiveness & Eternal Life**

**Or We – REJECT HIM
& Reject the Free Gift of Eternal Life – He Died to Offer us**

Let's Pray