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Joy in Agonizing Prayer — The Gospels, Heb. 5:7-10

"Jesus went out and His disciples followed him over the Brook Kidron, to the Mount of Olives, entering a garden called Gethsemane, as He was accustomed. He said to the disciples, 'Sit here while I go and pray over there.' And He took with Him Peter, James and John, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them,

'My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.' He went a little farther, about a stone's throw, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, 'O, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup (hour) pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.'

Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, 'What! Simon, Are you sleeping? Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'And being in agony, He prayed a second time, more earnestly,

'O, My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from me unless I drink it, Your will be done.' Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then He came to His disciples and said to them,

'Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand.'"

Matthew 26:36-46, Mark 14:32-41, Luke 22:39-46, John 18:1

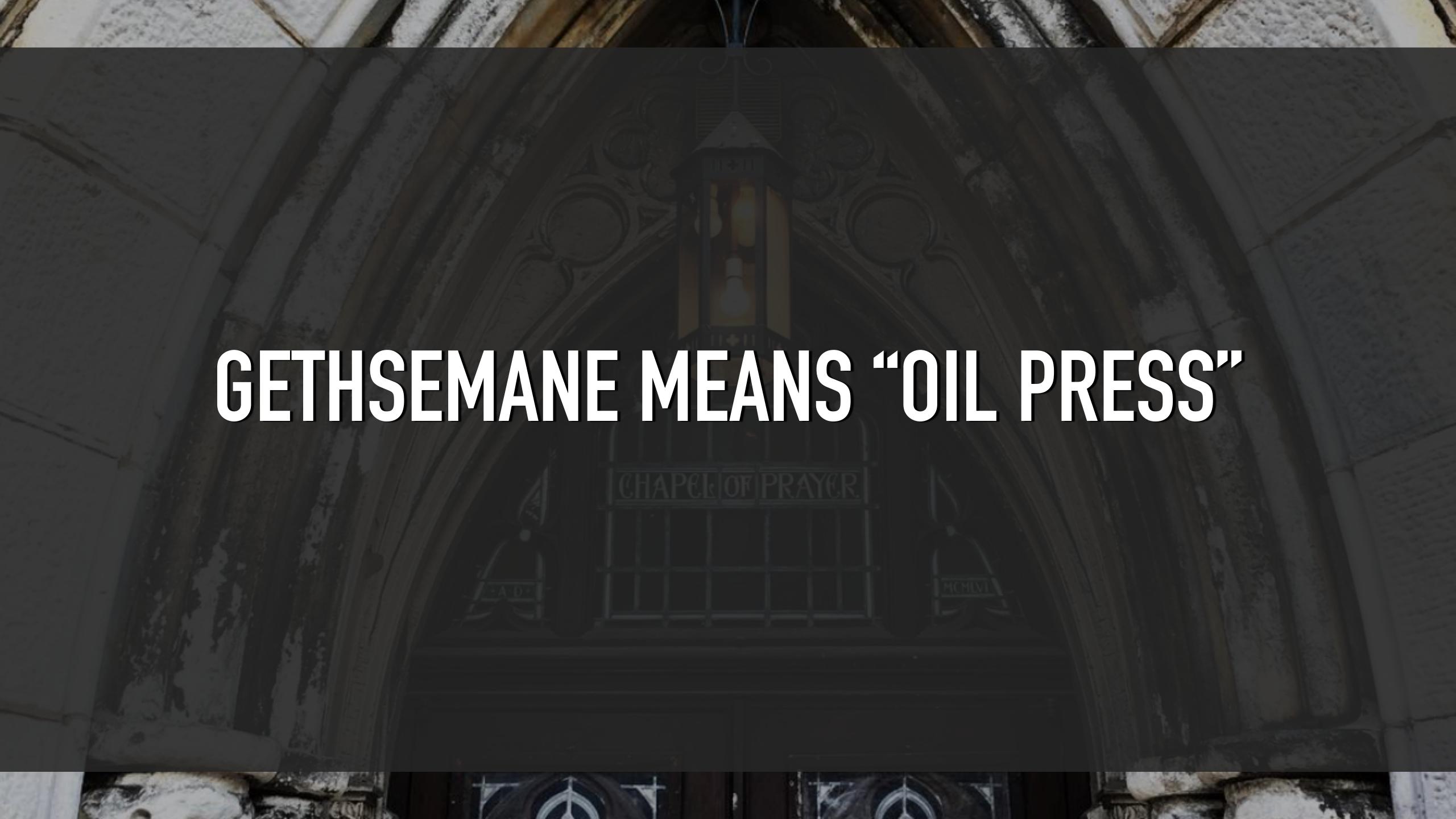
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"...in the days of His flesh (Jesus), when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him...."

Hebrews 5:7-9

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1. WHAT IS THE CUP HE IS TO DRINK?

It's a metaphor for one's lot or experience, whether joyous or adverse, divine appointments, whether favourable or unfavourable, which God presents one to drink: so of prosperity and adversity.

2. HOW DOES HE MANAGE HIMSELF LEADING TO THE DRINKING OF THE CUP?

- a. The oil press did not cause Jesus to question the goodness of God, but magnified it!!!!!
- b. Hebrews 5:8, "...He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."
- c. Philippians 2:8, "becoming obedient to the point of death...."

3. WHAT IS THE JOY IN AGONIZING PRAYER?

- 1. Our agony does not deafen His ability to hear. Hebrews 5:7
- 2. Our rescuer, death destroying God is the one who hears *Hebrews 5:7*

3. He answers - angelic activity, strength to endure, grace for the moment - *Luke* 22:44

3. WHAT IS THE JOY IN AGONIZING PRAYER?

- 4. Learn obedience through suffering. Today's obedience is the key that unlocks tomorrow victory. Hebrews 5:8
- 5. Experience the resurrection power of God. Philippians 3:10, Romans 8:17

PURPOSE:

- 1. As a family, I want us to know and experience the Father's heart and discover His beauty in our praying.
- 2. As a family, I want us to be confident, joyful and hopeful in the place of personal and corporate prayer.

PURPOSE:

- 3. As a family, I want us to pray because it will build a strong and trusting relationship with Jesus.
- 4. As a family, I want us to be a people of prayer because prayer changes us & situations.

GOALS:

- 1. I want us to have a stronger, more consistent prayer life centered on the majesty of God. (*Psalm 27:4, 29:4, 93:1, 96:6, 145:5,12*)
- 2. Because of your prayer life, I want Christ formed in you (Galatians 4:19, Colossians 1:9-14, Colossians 4:12) and Christ demonstrated through you (Acts 1:8, 14, 2:42, 3:1, 4:24, 6:4, Romans 15:13, Ephesians 3:16-21, Colossians 1:3-7)

APPLICATION IDEAS:

- 1. Keep your eye on Jesus.
- 2. Spend time thanking Jesus for his role in your journey.
- 3. Use humble & confident language in your praying.
- 4. Practice silence, as a rhythm for receiving strength & grace.
- 5. Christ is seated in the place of of honor. How does that encourage you?
- 6. Ask Holy Spirit, "What promises from God, do I have, that require my presence in the oil press?"

7. Pick up a devotional online or at the welcome center.

