



When We are Weak You are Strong

Matthew 26:31-56

Introduction: Last week we heard...

1. Jesus predicts Peter's _____ - 26:31-35

31 Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

Note: Zechariah 13:7 (Prophetic)

Luke 22:31 - *"Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat".*

Matthew 26:35 - *Peter said to Him, deny You!" "Even if I have to die with You, I will not And so said all the disciples.*

2. Jesus _____ in the Garden – 26:36-46

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." ³⁷ And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." ³⁹ He went a little farther and fell on His

face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

"If it is possible" ...

Note: John 10: 14-18 (See reference)

Matthew 26:40 - Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Jesus says, " and Pray, lest you enter temptation."

Note: 1 Peter 5:8 – (See reference)

Matthew 26:41 - "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

2 Peter 2:9 - "the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations..."

⁴² Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." ⁴³ And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

Matthew 26:45-46 - ⁴⁵ Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

3. Jesus is _____ and Arrested - 26:47-56

⁴⁷ And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." ⁴⁹ Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings,

Rabbi!” and kissed Him. ⁵⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Friend, why have you come?” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. ⁵¹ And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

Note: John 18:10 – (See reference)

⁵² But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?

Jesus says, “Do you think that I cannot pray to my Father and He will provide Me with _____ legions of angels?”

A Roman Legion was composed of _____ soldiers. Therefore _____ legions of angels would be composed of _____ angels. Remember that a single angel of God slayed 185,000 Assyrian men in a single night (2 Kings 19:35)

The Lord's battles are won in his power alone!!

In verse 54, “How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?”

When Peter went after the high priest's servant, he literally was _____ the fulfillment of God's prophecy and plan of redemption.

My friends, how often do we miss the point of what God is saying and doing? We read in verses, ⁵⁵ *In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me. ⁵⁶ But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.”*

Then all the disciples _____ Him and fled.

Jesus portrays some _____ here when He speaks to the multitudes. It took a multitude of cowards to seize Jesus.

Jesus is reminding them what their own scriptures of prophecy had been told before and they were fulfilling the prophecy of old.

Conclusion: They (Judas and the multitude) have chosen the Messiah to _____ and crucify, but sadly they have missed the Messiah who can bring salvation to their lives.

It is easy to criticize the disciples in this passage. But, in reality I believe that this is a great reminder that we have all potentially ran away from _____, ridicule or mockery because of who we are in Christ.

When we are weak, _____ is strong!

Let me remind you and I that we, who are in Christ, have the same victory in Christ.

I hope and pray that there is no one here who has missed the Messiah and his saving _____. Make sure that you know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord.

What do we see from this passage that we can apply to our lives? There are three truths I want to point out. They are:

1. **Be** _____. The disciples were unprepared for what was to come.
2. **Be** _____. The disciples were impulsive (especially Peter). He relied on his own understanding of the situation.
3. **Be** _____. The disciples were impatient. We need to wait on the Lord for his perfect plan!