

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

Let This Cup Pass

Matthew 26:30-56

Week 52 August 15, 2021

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What is the hardest thing you have ever had to face?

THIS IS WHAT WILL HAPPEN

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹ Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

*"I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'*

³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." ³³ Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." ³⁴ "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." ³⁵ But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

Matthew 26:30-35

Jesus begins these remarks with the phrase "for it is written." This is God's plan.

The odds of eight prophecies coming true for one person are 1×10^{17} .

IN THE GARDEN

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me..." ⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Matthew 26:36-38; 45-46 NIV

Jesus asked the disciples to pray with Him but twice they fell asleep.

Jesus had spelled out what this night was to bring.

The disciples slept because they did not know how powerful prayer could be in preparation for what was about to happen.

LET THIS CUP PASS

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Matthew 26:39 NIV

1. Ask God anything you want to.
2. Make sure you pray for God's will.

THE ARREST

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.... ⁵³ Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" ⁵⁵ In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Matthew 26:47-53; 5356 NIV

Jesus is not making this happen; He is making sure the disciples and the angels do not stop it from happening.

Will the disciples ever get it right?

History and tradition tell us the eleven disciples went and spread the gospel and ten died martyr's deaths.

If we will continue to pray and always submit our prayers to God's will we will walk with God in His sovereign plan for our lives and for the world around us.