



“Crushed in the Olive Press”

Sunday, October 22, 2023 | Text: Matthew 26:36-46

[36] Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” [37] And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. [38] Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” [39] And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” [40] And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? [41] Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” [42] Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” [43] And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. [44] So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. [45] Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. [46] Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

1. Sorrow (vs. 36-38)

*Psalm 42; John 12:27; Mark 14:32–42; Luke 22:40–46

2. Submission (vs. 39, 42, 44)

*Matthew 6:10; 2 Corinthians 12:8

3. Sleep (vs. 40-41, 43)

*Matthew 6:13

4. Strength (vs. 45-46)

5. Substitution (vs. 39, 42)

*Psalm 75:8; Isaiah 51:17, 20-22; Jeremiah 25:15-16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Colossians 2:3-14; 1 Peter 2: 24-25

If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?

Discussion Questions: What does “Gethsemane” mean? Why was Jesus so deeply sorrowful and troubled in His soul? Since this was the sovereign plan of God, why does Jesus not want to drink the cup? How does Jesus’ struggle display perfect submission? Why did the disciples keep falling asleep? How would you explain the terms substitution and propitiation to an unbeliever with little or no theological knowledge or vocabulary? Why is it important to see Jesus as our substitute and propitiation, and not just a loving example? How does the truth of Christ’s substitutionary death impact your daily pursuit of holiness? How does this text lead you to solemn worship?

Next Sunday’s Sermon: Matthew 26:47-56

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