



LESSON 149 - MARK 14:32-46 (Mt 26:36-46, Luke 22:39-47)

And He went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from Me: nevertheless not what I will, but what Thou wilt.

And He cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour? Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.

And again He went away, and prayed, and spake the same words. And when He returned, He found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy,) neither knew they what to answer Him. And He cometh the third time, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand. And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely. And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him. And they laid their hands on him, and took him.

If we put the three gospels that record the Gethsemane time together, we find this: 1) Jesus only expected to be in the garden little more than an hour before being betrayed; 2) He wanted His disciples' support with their presence and their prayers (He could have gone alone to the garden and left them in the upper room); 3) Jesus had said that all the disciples would be offended because of Him (Mt 26:31); their and Peter's prayers should have been focused on what Jesus had prophesied concerning that topic, as well as the three denials Jesus had said Peter would make before the cock crowed twice, and the upcoming events that Jesus had revealed to them a number of times.

Jesus' prayers reflect the loveliness of His character and the unmovable quality of His trust. "O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." (Mt 26:39) "Abba, Father, all things are possible unto You. Take this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will." (Mk 14:35-36) "Father, if You be willing, remove this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not My will but Thine be done." (Lk 22:42) "Abba," which is equivalent to our "Papa" or "Daddy," shows the closeness and sweetness of the relationship between Father and Son. That closeness was so important to Jesus, and because He knew His taking the penalty for the world's sin on the cross would interrupt that fellowship, He asked if there was any other way to accomplish man's redemption. The answer was no. He accepted that. Notice He never let His soul rule over His Spirit, but followed His request with a surrender of Himself to the Father's will, even though that meant experiencing on the cross the fulness of pain, agony, and separation from God. That seems to me to be a principle of prayer for us: faith asks, and then surrenders its request to the Father's will, knowing there may be a bigger picture yet unseen. This bowing to the Father's will, giving self without reservation to Him is one

of the highest levels of love.

The disciples had the chance in the hour in the garden to be the ones to request help and strength from heaven for Jesus, but they failed to be a prayer partner of the Lord. Read Psalm 22:11, part of a Messianic psalm. The loveliness of the Father is revealed by His sending of an angel to strengthen Jesus, since His disciples were not attuned to Jesus' need for support. (Lk 22:43) The Father cares for His children and will provide, even though people may fail us.

"Nevertheless not what I will, but what Thou wilt." This was the theme of the life of the Lord Jesus, to do the will of His Father. Psalm 40:8 reveals the attitude of the Messiah: "I delight to do Thy will, O My God." Jesus taught His disciples to pray for the will of God their Father to be done. (Mt 6) Not only did He ascribe to the will of God, and teach His followers to desire it, but He lived His life fulfilling the will of His Father. He held nothing back from His God. He honored Him in every way, even to giving His life to the accomplishing of that will.

Some people focus on Jesus' words, "Take away this cup from Me," thinking He had changed His mind about being the Sacrificial Lamb of God, and Redeemer of mankind, but I see a Man Who loved His Father so much and enjoyed their fellowship together that He didn't want to lose that, if there was any other way to bring about His Father's will. At this moment in time, Jesus was our only Hope, our only Way back to God. If He bailed out, we would have had no hope of heaven, only hell eternally. He could have turned His back on this mission. His Father had given Him that option. (See Mt 26:53-54) The sweetest words ever recorded may be these:

"Nevertheless not what I will, but what Thou wilt." In that surrender, in that renewal of His covenant promise to His Father, Jesus set His face like a flint to accomplish all the Father's will and became the Way of salvation for us. Hallelujah! Thank You, Jesus.

[Back](#)

[Home](#) | [About Me](#) | [Contact](#) | [Book Reviews](#) | [Book Excerpts](#) | [Illustrator](#) | [Links](#) | [Bible Study-Mark](#) | [Book Orders](#)

Copyright © 2008 LambTalk - All rights reserved.