

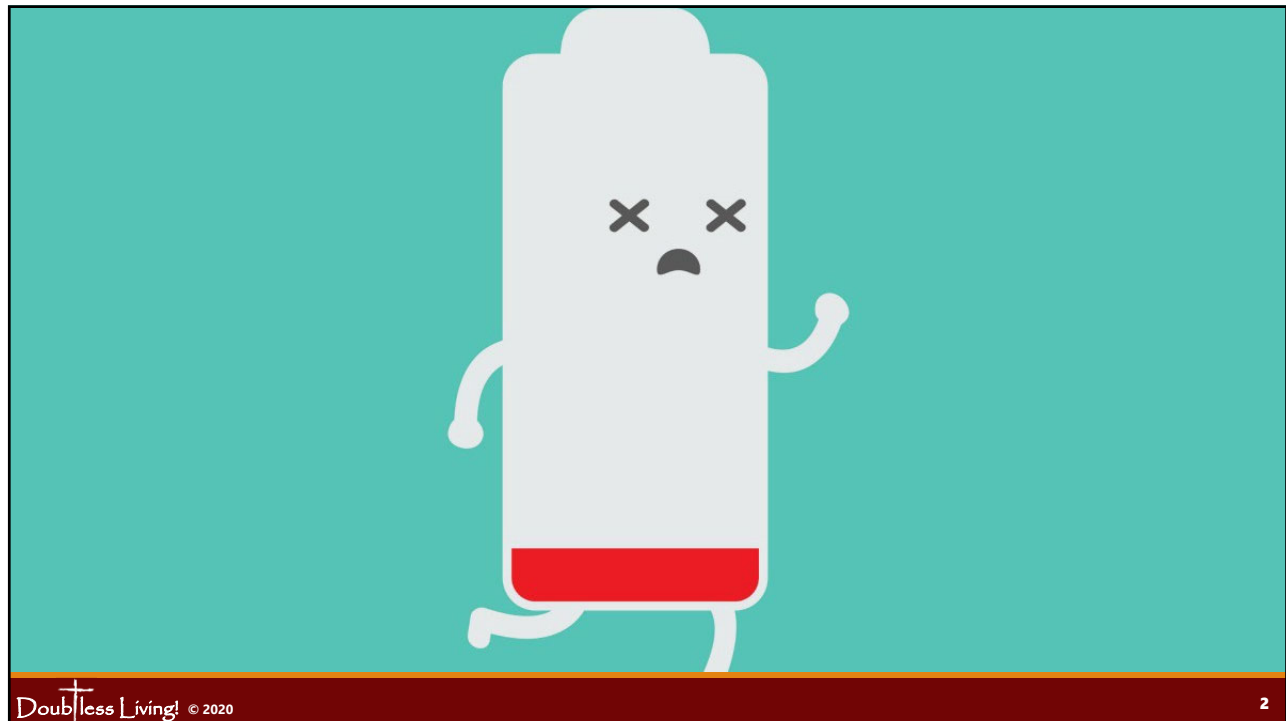
Doubtless Living!

THE GOSPEL OF  
**LUKE**  
That you may have certainty!

[www.doubtlessliving.com](http://www.doubtlessliving.com)

Doubtless Living! © 2020

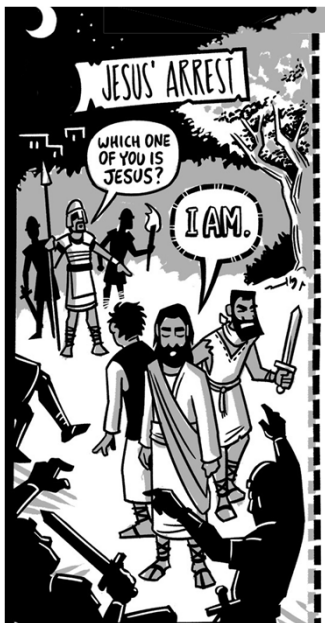
1



Doubtless Living! © 2020

2

2



created by the Bible Project

# FERVENT PRAYERS

PRAYERS, ANGUISH AND  
GRIEF IN THE GARDEN

Luke 22:39-46

3

## Fervent Prayers

Luke 22:39-46

<sup>39</sup> He went out and made his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When he reached the place, he told them, “Pray that you may not fall into temptation.” <sup>41</sup> Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and began to pray, <sup>42</sup> “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me — nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

<sup>43</sup> Then an angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him. <sup>44</sup> Being in anguish, he prayed more fervently, and his sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground. <sup>45</sup> When he got up from prayer and came to the disciples, he found them sleeping, exhausted from their grief. <sup>46</sup> “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray, so that you won’t fall into temptation.”

4

<sup>39</sup>He went out and made his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup>When he reached the place, he told them, "Pray that you may not fall into temptation."

Doubtless Living! © 2020

## PRAYERS OF PREPARATION

- The meal ends and Jesus departs for the Mount of Olives, as was His custom.
- It is now late in the evening and the disciples follow Him to the Garden of Gethsemane.
- The moment has arrived, Jesus' death is imminent, and He's knows it.

This passage provides us with a look at the "inner" Jesus as He prepares to face His arrest and death.

5

5

<sup>39</sup>He went out and made his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup>When he reached the place, he told them, "Pray that you may not fall into temptation."

Doubtless Living! © 2020

## JESUS' WARNING

- Jesus knows that Satan asked for permission to sift Peter and the rest of the disciples.
  - ❖ Remember, Jesus warned Peter specifically, but the Greek language suggests that Satan wanted to sift all of the disciples, not just Peter.
- Matthew and Mark record Jesus saying; *"The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."*

Prayer is important because it expresses a need for God and a desire to depend upon Him and rest in His care.

6

6

## EMOTIONALLY INTENSE

- **Jesus prepares to pray, all alone, and kneels before the Father in humility.**
  - ❖ Matthew and Mark say that **Jesus fell facedown to pray, emphasizing humility** when praying to the Father. (Matt 26:39, Mk 14:35)
  - ❖ His prayer reveals his mood as he faces death – note the **double statements of submission** to God's will.
- **Jesus is intensely emotional, but He makes it clear that His request is less significant than His desire to do God's will.**

<sup>41</sup>Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and began to pray, <sup>42</sup>"Father, **if you are willing, take this cup away from me — nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.**"

7

7

<sup>43</sup>Then an angel from heaven appeared to him, **strengthening him.**

## SERIOUSLY TEMPTING

- **Angels appearing from heaven to minister to Jesus is very unusual! It only happened twice between His birth and His resurrection:**
  1. In the desert after being tempted by Satan for 40-days and 40-nights (Matt. 4:11).
  2. Right here in the Garden of Gethsemane, as He is being tempted again!
- **When Jesus told the disciples to pray so they would not fall into temptation (v. 40) He was talking to Himself too!**

8

8

<sup>44</sup>Being in **anguish**,  
he prayed more  
fervently, and his  
sweat became like  
drops of blood falling  
to the ground.

## TOTALLY EXHAUSTING

- Why did Jesus need strengthening?
- Because He was in severe anguish!
  - ❖ The Greek word used here for agony (*agonia*) describes a state of extreme mental and emotional strain, anguish and sorrow.
  - ❖ Jesus was under severe emotional stress, and the strain was taking a huge physical and emotional toll on Him.

**It was so severe that it prompted angels to strengthen Him!**

<sup>44</sup>Being in anguish,  
**he prayed more  
fervently**, and his  
sweat became like  
drops of blood falling  
to the ground.

## PAINFULLY EXACTING

- What did Jesus do while the angels ministered to Him?
- He prayed even more fervently!
- The anguish was so severe, and His prayers so fervent, that they caused a very physical reaction from His human body.
- His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground!

Jesus said; ***"I am deeply grieved, to the point of death!"*** (Matt 26:38; Mark 14:34)

## TRIUMPHANTLY EMPOWERING

- **Jesus rose from prayer in triumph and immediately went to find His disciples!**
  - ❖ He did not run away and hide
  - ❖ He did not flee from the enemy
  - ❖ He faced fully into the God's will, and
  - ❖ Submitted to the cross, without hesitation.
- **He went from grieving to the point of death and sweating drops of blood in prayer to enduring ridicule, mockery, beating, humiliation, torture and death on a cross!**
- **Don't tell me there's no power in prayer!**

<sup>45</sup>When he got up from prayer and came to the disciples, he found them sleeping, exhausted from their grief. <sup>46</sup>"Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray, so that you won't fall into temptation."

11

11

## TRIUMPHANTLY FULFILLING

- **Why were the disciples sleeping?**
- **Because they were overwhelmed with sorrow, fatalism, and despair.**
- **They had been told that:**
  - ❖ They were going to abandon the Lord
  - ❖ Peter would deny Christ, three times!
  - ❖ Jesus would be arrested and go to the cross
- **From their perspective, the world had collapsed and there was nothing left to pray for.**
- **Yet, Jesus urged them over-and-over again to pray, because He knew firsthand the power of prayer!**

<sup>45</sup>When he got up from prayer and came to the disciples, he found them sleeping, exhausted from their grief. <sup>46</sup>"Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray, so that you won't fall into temptation."

12

12



## DELIBERATE DISCIPLESHIP

- This passage gives us an intimate look at the inner Jesus, and we see how He responded to crisis.
- He honestly bared his innermost thoughts with the Father and even asked if the cup might pass by Him.
- The heart of His prayer shows a commitment to follow God's will, above all else, no matter the cost.
- Jesus, enduring intense, emotional agony, found renewed strength when He openly and honestly shared His thoughts and His feelings with the Father in prayer.
- God responds to open, honest, genuine prayer. He hears and sends His aid to those in need. It may not change the outcome, but it will always change our attitude.
- **Have you tried it lately?**