



# GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

# Garden of Gethsemane

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- Context – right after eating the Passover meal (foot-washing, teaching, betrayal, communion & singing hymns.)
- Gethsemane means “**olive press**” – where they crushed olives – fitting – Jesus was pressed by the weight of the sins of the world and the horror of separation from the Father.
- What made Jesus want to go to this specific place for this final scene of His life before the arrest? - **2 Samuel 15:23**
- The Garden was where Jesus enjoyed the most, and it is fitting that he will go there to suffer. **John 18:2** – Jesus purposely went to the place where they knew He would be.
- This passage begins the “**passion**” of Jesus: **the period of his suffering up to and including the crucifixion.**

# Harmonization – The Garden

## Mark 14:32-42

<sup>32</sup> Then they came to a place which was named **Gethsemane**; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” <sup>33</sup> And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. <sup>34</sup> Then He said to them, “**My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death.** Stay here and watch.”

<sup>35</sup> He went a little farther, and **fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.** <sup>36</sup> And He said, “**Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.**”

<sup>37</sup> Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? <sup>38</sup> **Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**”

<sup>39</sup> Again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words. <sup>40</sup> And when He returned, He found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him.

<sup>41</sup> Then He came the third time and said to them, “**Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come;** behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup> Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand.”

## Luke 22:39-46

<sup>41</sup> And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup> saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” <sup>43</sup> **Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.** <sup>44</sup> **And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.**

<sup>45</sup> When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. <sup>46</sup> Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”

## John 18:1-2

**18** When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples **over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden**, which He and His disciples entered. <sup>2</sup> **And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples.**

Mark 14:32-42

# Jesus' Humanity & Deity in The Garden

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- **Humanity** of Jesus is shown more than ever before.
- We must be careful to delicately balance the Godliness and Humanity of Jesus Christ, and we must take great care and reverence as we contemplate this.
- Don't challenge anything with your intellect here, **humble yourself and be in awe** at the divinity of God's sovereign plan of salvation and the **cost to God** of this sacrifice, being the ultimate demonstration of **Love**.
- Jesus shows His humanity, by example to us, that even while the flesh doesn't want to go through suffering, He submits to God's will & obeys even unto death.

# Garden of Gethsemane vs The Garden of Eden

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- The first **Adam** began life in a garden. **Christ the second Adam**, came at the end of his life to a garden
  - In Eden Adam sinned and brought condemnation to all mankind.
  - In Gethsemane the Savior overcame sin by dying on the Cross, providing justification (salvation) to mankind.
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Every day, we walk in the gardens of decision. The two choices in two gardens give us pause to consider our own decisions today:

- Like Adam in the Garden of Eden, we can disobey God's Word in favor of what we think or feel—and live with overwhelming regret.
- Like Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, we can take God at His Word and trust and obey Him—even when it costs us dearly.
- **Romans 5: 12-19**

## Romans 5:12-19 (NKJV)

# Death in Adam, Life in Christ

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**12** "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned... (MORAL RUIN OF THE HUMAN RACE – DOCTRINE OF HUMAN DEPRAVITY)

**14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.\*

**18** Therefore, as through one man's offense *judgment* came to all men, resulting in **condemnation (Hell)**, even so **through one Man's righteous act** *the free gift* came to all men, resulting in **justification** of life ("**declared righteous**" = **eternal life = Heaven**). **19** For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."

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\*1 Cor 15:45<sup>45</sup> ...“The first man Adam became a living being.” The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit.

## Mark 14:32-42

# Jesus' Agony In The Garden

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- Jesus experienced and felt all that humans do – He experienced sorrow, He cried, He felt the physical pain and the shame of the Cross, but He is obedient and willing to die.
- But here, Jesus was not enduring any physical suffering yet and had been used to rejection. The fear of impending death is scary to humans, but not to produce sweat as blood. It's possible Satan was there attacking Him, but Jesus has already proven that He can easily overcome Satan. **There must be something more going on here.**
- **Luke 22:44** says that “He prayed more earnestly. Then **His sweat became like great drops of blood...**”.
- **What grieved His soul to the point of “death” (v34) was not the physical pain, but the separation from the Father implied by the “cup” of God’s wrath (v36, 10:38; Is. 51:17), resulting in Him bearing the penalty of man’s sin (atonement)**

# Example for Us

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- If Jesus could manage to remain strong in such trials and continue to call God “Abba” despite what is to come, then Christians should try to do so as well.
- The story almost cries out for the reader to imagine how they might react in a similar situation, an appropriate response for Christians who might indeed find themselves doing just that tomorrow or next week.
- When you go through personal trials & suffering, think of Jesus in the Garden, and humble yourself, thank God for what you have, resist Satan and Pray.



# “The Man of Sorrows”

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- **Isaiah 53:3** – “**He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.**”
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- **Jesus did not generally show this kind of sorrow throughout the rest of the scriptures, until here in the garden. He was usually a man of peace and joy and only hours before He prayed:**
    - **John 14:27** – “**Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.**”
    - **John 17:13** – “**But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.**”

# “The Man of Sorrows”

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- But in Gethsemane all seems changed, his peace is gone, his calm is turned to sorrow and anxiety as He cries out to God
  - **Mark 14:36** – “**Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away me; nevertheless, not my what I will, but what you will.**” (sweating blood – Luke 22:44)

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- It was not the Jews, the Romans, Judas or Satan that brought on this Cup, it was God!!
  - **Isaiah 53:10** – “**Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin,...**”
  - **2 Cor. 5:21** - “**For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**”

## (Mark 14:36; Mark 10: 35 - 39)

# The Cup & Baptism

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- V.35-37 “**What do you want ME to do for you?**” the second great question of Mark
- James and John ask Him in v35-37 “to do whatever we ask....we may sit at your right hand and left, in your glory”
- Jesus says “NO” because they still don’t understand the Cross – **SUFFERING & SACRIFICE IS THE PATH TO GLORY**. The rewards come at a cost.
- James and John misunderstood the significance of “drinking the cup he drank” and the “baptism he was baptised”, (maybe they thought it was water baptism and a royal goblet).
- **The “CUP” REPRESENTS GOD’S WRATH AT MAN’S SIN (Job 21:20; Ps. 60:3)**, particularly PRIDE (**Ps. 75:8**). This wrath led to the exile of Israel (**Is. 51:17-23**).
- **Being Overwhelmed by WATER is also an image of God’s Wrath** (Gen: 6:13, 17, Ex. 14:24-28; Ps. 42:7-10), of the judgement from which He saves us. (Ps. 69:2, 15)
- Just as He was “baptised” (Mark 1:9) in water among sinners needing forgiveness, at the **true “baptism” of the Cross**, those at his right and left are common criminals. **JESUS** drinks the unique “**CUP**” of **God’s wrath (Mark 14:36)** so that **WE** (sinners) can share in the “**cup**” of the new covenant (**Mark 14:18-27**).
- Jesus doesn’t deny them the Cross (“you will indeed drink the cup...and be baptised in the baptism I am..”) because **the Cross is something believers must share** by following unashamedly the pattern of the Cross.
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4UV1y0Y8SA&list=PLcJVluhI8isJMzXK9iJ\\_UhJrcRu7lgtiN&index=17](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4UV1y0Y8SA&list=PLcJVluhI8isJMzXK9iJ_UhJrcRu7lgtiN&index=17)

Mark 14:38

# Jesus Teaches us to Pray

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- **The last words of Jesus to the Disciples before the Cross were:**
  - **“WATCH & PRAY, LEST YOU ENTER INTO TEMPTATION”** (14:38)
  - Not so they could help Him fight temptation against the Cross, but to help in their own temptation.
  - Although the disciple’s promises sounded good, without God’s help they could never keep them (“the flesh is weak...”)
  - **“Watch”** continues Mark’s emphasis on “seeing” and **spiritual blindness** (Mark 4:10-11; 4:24; 8:18; 13:37; 14:42). They are blind to their own weakness.

## Mark 14:32-42

# Jesus' Agony In The Garden

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- The word “**Abba Father**” (v.36) magnifies the horror of it and the intimacy & dependence Jesus had with the Father. Abba is the Aramaic word for “papa” or “**daddy**”, and God called Him twice His “Son whom I love” (1:11-baptism; 9:7-transfiguration).
- Jesus knew that His Father could take the cup from Him, but He also knew that it was not His Father’s will to do so (14:36).
- The “**hour**” is the appointed time for Jesus’ death/exaltation and glorification, in which the **Redemptive plan of the Father is divinely fulfilled – the crux of history/eternity.**
- **Peter’s “sleep”** and three denials **suggests that his denial is due to lack of prayer and “watching”,** and **Jesus’ use of Peter’s old name “SIMON”** (v.37) is significant.

# Satan In The Garden?

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- **Was Satan was in the Garden?** – **Luke 22:53** – **“This is the hour of the power of darkness”** – If so, this was the **third time Satan is trying to keep Jesus from the Cross** : (1) Wilderness after baptism, (2) Ch 8:34 – Peter trying to deny the Cross
- God cannot be tempted and cannot sin, but because Jesus is the “God-Man” He could be tempted, yet not sin.
- Could be that Jesus was struggling not with Satan but with Himself.
- Jesus even had an Angel come to strengthen Him and His stress was so great He sweat blood. - Luke 22:43
- **Heb. 5:7-8** – <sup>7</sup>”who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and **was heard because of His godly fear,** <sup>8</sup> though He was a Son, **yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”**
- **Psalm 16:10** – “For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow **Your Holy One** to see corruption.”
- Jesus was able to do this because He was Holy – God wouldn’t prevent His death, but would save Him from it because He was the Holy One.

**Video of Passion of Christ** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GQNSHXehgaE>

# Reflection Questions

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- If there is no **Hell** that we must be saved from, then why did Christ die on the Cross?
- Have you considered the tremendous **cost** Jesus Christ paid for our salvation?
- Can you see the magnitude of God's **love** for us more now?
- As God, Jesus Christ was perfectly holy and incapable of sin, yet he had to bear sin, to be led forth as the scape goat bearing the sins of the world upon his head, to be taken and made a sin offering and consumed with the fire of divine wrath. The Garden was where Jesus came to terms with this horrifying reality.
- Have you put your trust in Jesus Christ not only as your saviour, but as your Lord and Master? Do you love and obey the Lord as a true follower, and are you prepared to suffer persecution if necessary? We will all go through the garden at some point – are you ready?