

The Crushing of the King Mark 14:32-42 (cf: Matthew 26:36-46; Luke 22:39-46; John 18:1-3)

The Garden of Gethsemane - גת שמנים (Gat Shmanim) - "oil press"

"He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried;
Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities..." (Isaiah 53:3-5)

Jesus experienced agony in a place where olives were crushed Mark 14:32-34

Mark 14:34 – "And He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death..."

- We need to understand the depth of the grief of Jesus
 - "In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with **loud crying and tears** to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety." (Hebrew 5:7)
- This level of grief was unique even to Jesus
 - "And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be very **distressed and troubled**. And He said to them, 'My soul is **deeply grieved to the point of death...**'" (Mark 14:33-34)
 - Distressed and troubled: "amazed" "astonished" "awestruck"
 - Deeply grieved: "περιλυπος" (**perilupos**) "overwhelmingly sorrowful" "surrounded by sorrow"

Jesus prayed prayers of desperation Mark 14:35-41

Mark 14:35 – "And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground and began to pray"

- The first prayer
 - "And He was saying, "**Abba! Father!** All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." (Mark 14:35-36)
- The second prayer
 - "Again He went away and prayed, saying the same words." (Mark 14:39)
 - "My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done." (Matthew 26:42)
- The third prayer
 - "And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more." (Matthew 26:44)

Jesus looked deeply into the cup of suffering Mark 14:36, 42

Mark 14:36 – "...remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will."

- Suggestion One: The cup represents physical death
- Suggestion Two: The cup represents premature death
- Suggestion Three: The cup represents separation from God
 - Cup linked to the wrath of God
 - Psalm 11:6, 75:8-9; Isaiah 51:17,19,22; Jeremiah 2:15-16, 49:12, 51:57; Lamentations 4:21; Ezekiel 23:31-34; Habakkuk 2:16; Zechariah 12:2

Centuries earlier, in another garden, the first Adam learned disobedience and brought death. Now, in this garden, the last Adam learned obedience and brought life.

"For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay." Psalm 16:10

Digging Deeper + LifeGroup Discussion:

Psalm 11:6 "Upon the wicked He will rain snares; fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of their cup."

Psalm 75:8 "For a cup is in the hand of the Lord, and the wine foams; It is well mixed, and He pours out of this; Surely all the wicked of the earth must drain and drink down its dregs."

Isaiah 51:17 "Rouse yourself! Rouse yourself! Arise, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the Lord's hand the cup of His anger; the chalice of reeling you have drained to the dregs."

Isaiah 51:22 "Thus says your Lord, the Lord, even your God Who contends for His people, 'Behold, I have taken out of your hand the cup of reeling, the chalice of My anger; You will never drink it again.'"

Jeremiah 25:15-16 For thus the Lord, the God of Israel, says to me, "Take this cup of the wine of wrath from My hand and cause all the nations to whom I send you to drink it. They will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them."

The wrath of God doesn't settle well with many of us. We prefer to think of God as loving. Read Pastor Tim Keller's words as he has grappled with this very concept, and his thoughts on how he made peace, with God's wrath:

If there is no wrath by God on sin, and there is no such thing as Hell, not only does that actually make what happened to Jesus inexplicable - Jesus staggering the way He is, asking God, "Is there any other way?" [and] sweating blood means that He was wimpier than hundreds of His followers, if there was nothing like [God's wrath]—but...the main thing is, if you don't believe in the wrath and Hell, it trivializes what He's done.... If you get rid of a God who has wrath and Hell, you've got a god who loves us in general, but that's not as loving as the God of the Bible, the God of Jesus Christ, who loves us with a costly love.

Look what it cost. Look what He did! Look what He was taking! You get rid of wrath and Hell, He's not taking anything close to this. And therefore, what you've done is you've just turned His incredible act of love into just something very trivial, very small....and by the way, if the anticipation of these sufferings—if the very taste of these sufferings—sent the Son of God into shock, what must it have been to drink them to the bottom?"

- Have you made peace with the wrath of God? How do you hold in balance the God of love and wrath?
- To understand what Jesus went through in the garden, how much more precious is your salvation?
- How does this passage encourage you to pray more, especially in your times of agony?

In Response:

COMMUNION: Communion is a "meal" for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you plan ahead to give purposefully and joyfully to God, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus' name. Discover ways to give on the front of the bulletin or calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

PRAYER ROOM: The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.

