

Sunday, June 3, 2012—Mark Dispensationally Considered—Mark 14:32-52: Agony and Arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane

Mark 14:32-42

- **32) And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.**
 - 33) And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;**
 - 34) And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.**
 - 35) And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.**
 - 36) 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.**
 - 37) And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?**
 - 38) Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly [is] ready, but the flesh [is] weak.**
 - 39) And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.**
 - 40) And when he returned, he found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy,) neither wist they what to answer him.**
 - 41) 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.**
 - 42) Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand.**
- Mark 14:32—when Jesus and the disciples arrive at Gethsemane a garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives, Jesus instructs his disciples to sit there while he goes on to pray.
 - Matthew 26:36—it is important to notice that notice that Jesus Christ the eternal Son of God found it necessary to pray. If this was important for Christ how much more important is it for us.
 - Luke 22:39-40
 - Mark 14:33-34—Peter, James, and John go with Christ a little farther than the rest of the 12. According to verse 33 it is at this time that Jesus “began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;”
 - Sore amazed—means to be struck with terror. Mark 16:5-5—“affrighted” come from the same Greek word as the expression “sore amazed.” The implication is clear that thought of his impending death was a scary one for Christ.
 - Very heavy—means to be troubled with great distress and anguish. Philippians 2:26

- Matthew 26:37-38—on account of his soul sorrowing even unto the death he asks Peter, James, and John to “watch with me.”
- Mark 14:35-36—Jesus asks God the Father that “if it were possible, that the hour might pass from him.” In verse 36 he asks to have the cup of suffering removed from him if it is possible. However, he is willing to submit to the will of his Father.
- Mark 14:23-24—in the context it is clear what the cup is a reference to. It is a reference to the shedding of blood that is about to occur shortly.
 - Matthew 26:39—the value of the account of the agony in the Garden is in the evidence it affords that He knew fully what the agony of the cross would mean when His soul was made an offering for sin in the hiding of the Father’s face.
 - Isaiah 53:10—the soul of the Lord Jesus Christ would be made an offering for sin. More than the physical pain, Jesus feared the spiritual pain of separation from his Father.
- Mark 14:37-38—demonstrates that Peter, James, and John have no idea that Christ is shortly going to die. They could not even watch and pray for one hour while Christ went off to pray.
 - Matthew 26:40-41
- Mark 14:39-40—Jesus went away a second time to pray. The content of this second prayer was the same as the first. The results were the same also in that Jesus found the disciples asleep.
 - Matthew 26:42-43
- Mark 14:41-42—these are the words Jesus speaks after returning from a third round of prayer. When he come back the third time he tells them to “sleep on.”
 - Matthew 26:44-46—the content of the third prayer was the same as the first two.
- Luke 22:39-46—offers details of the Lord’s agony not recorded in Matthew or Mark.
 - Verse 41—Jesus was only about a stone’s throw away from disciples.
 - Verse 43—an angel appeared to strengthen Christ through his ordeal.
 - Verse 44—the physical effect of the agony he was under caused Christ to sweat drops of blood.
 - Verse 45—Luke alone tells us that the disciples were “sleeping for sorrow.”
- George Williams, author of *The Students Commentary* states the following regarding the Lord’s agony in Gethsemane, “. . . cannot have been that which is proper to a mere man, for multitudes of martyrs have gone joyfully and courageously to the most fearful of deaths. Hebrews 5:7 shows

that the wrath of God that was to judge Him as if He, and He alone, were the only sinner that ever existed caused that agony.” (772)

Mark 14:43-50

- **43) 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.**
 - **44) 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.**
 - **45) And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him.**
 - **46) And they laid their hands on him, and took him.**
 - **47) And one of them that stood by drew a sword, and smote a servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.**
 - **48) And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and [with] staves to take me?**
 - **49) I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled.**
 - **50) And they all forsook him, and fled.**
- In order to get a complete picture of what transpired at the arrest of Jesus we need to compare the accounts found in all four gospels. We will use the passage in Mark 14 as a base text to make these comparisons.
 - Mark 14:43—while Jesus was still speaking the words of verse 42 Judas came with his posse to arrest Jesus.
 - Matthew 26:47
 - Luke 22:47
 - Mark 14:44-46—prior to arriving Judas had told the multitude that whomever he kissed that was the one they were to arrest. Upon arriving, Judas went straightway or immediate upon the Christ and kissed him. Once Jesus had been identified they did not waste any time in laying their hands on him.
 - Matthew 26:48-50
 - Luke 22:47-48—Jesus speaks to Judas.
 - John 18:2-9
 - Mark 14:47—in the commotion one that stood near cut the ear off the servant of the high priest.
 - Matthew 26:51-54

- Luke 22:49-51—those standing around ask Christ if he wants their protection. Jesus heals the ear of the servant of the high priest.
- John 18:10-11—Peter is the one who cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant.

- Mark 14:48-49—Jesus asks them why they have come out against him as a thief.
 - Matthew 26:55-56
 - Luke 22:52-53

- Mark 14:50—all the Apostles forsake Christ and run away.
 - Matthew 26:56