

## Matthew 26:30-46 **Passover to Gethsemane Prayer**

<sup>30</sup> And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written:

'I will strike the Shepherd,  
And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

[\[Zechariah 13:7\]](#)

<sup>32</sup> "But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee." <sup>33</sup> Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble." <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." <sup>35</sup> Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." <sup>37</sup> And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. <sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." <sup>39</sup> He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." <sup>40</sup> Then He came to the disciples and found them asleep, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup> Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." <sup>43</sup> And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup> Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand." NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ During the Passover supper, Judas had left after receiving the sop, and went to the Chief Priests to lead the soldiers to Jesus for the betrayal. [\[John 13:30, Matthew 26:47, Mark 14:43\]](#)
- ✚ When they had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives [\[Luke 22:39, John 18:1\]](#) where Jesus predicted that they would all be offended and made to stumble in fulfillment of the scripture that states: [\[Matthew 26:31, Mark 14:27\]](#)

'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

[\[Matthew 26:31, Mark 14:27, Zechariah 13:7\]](#)

- ✚ Jesus then said: "But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee." [\[Matthew 26:32, Mark 14:28\]](#)

### Special Prayer for Peter

- ✚ And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and **when you have returned to Me**, strengthen your brethren." [\[Luke 22:31-32\]](#)
- ✧ Jesus demonstrated that He even knows the request of Satan before God the Father, and that Peter would fail the test. [\[Luke 22:31\]](#)

- ✧ Jesus had prayed for Peter, but knew that Satan would be allowed to tempt Peter.
- ✧ Jesus knew that Peter would return in repentance after he was aware of his failure and would become a strength for the others.
- ✚ Peter promised that even if all the rest of the disciples were made to stumble, still He would not be made to stumble. [\[Matthew 26:33, Mark 14:29, Luke 22:33\]](#)
  - ✧ It is so easy to make rash promises when we don't know our own nature.
- ✚ Jesus said, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." [\[Matthew 26:34, Mark 14:30, Luke 22:34\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus knows the deepest of secrets and the heart of a man, even when the man himself doesn't know.
- ✚ Peter promised that even if he were to die with Jesus, he would not deny Him. [\[Matthew 26:35, Mark 14:31, Luke 22:33\]](#)
- ✚ All the rest of the disciples said the same. [\[Matthew 26:35, Mark 14:31\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus reminded the Disciples that when they first were sent out they lacked nothing because they had received all they needed from those they ministered to. But after Jesus is taken from them they would need to take their own support and provide for their own defense. [\[Luke 22:35-38\]](#)
  - ✧ For I say to you that **this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.' For the things concerning Me have an end.**" [\[Luke 22:37\]](#)
  - ✧ All things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. [\[Matthew 26:54, 56, Mark 14:49, Luke 18:31, 24:26-27, 44\]](#)
- ✚ So they said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." And He said to them, "It is enough." [\[Luke 22:38\]](#)
- ✚ They came to the Garden of Gethsemane.
  - ✧ Jesus told the disciples to wait while He goes to pray. [\[Matthew 26:36, Mark 14:32\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus took Peter, James, and John with Him and asked them to watch with Him, saying "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death." [\[Matthew 26:37-38, Mark 14:33-34\]](#)
  - ✧ When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." [\[Luke 22:40\]](#)
- ✧ Jesus went a little farther and prayed: "O My Father, If it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; Nevertheless, not My will but as You will." [\[Matthew 26:39, Mark 14:35-36, Luke 22:41-42\]](#)
- ✧ In this prayer we see the Humanity of Jesus. The prospect of what lay ahead was not pleasant even though it was planned before the foundation of the world. [\[1 Peter 1:18-20\]](#)
- ✧ Still Jesus put the will of the Father ahead of His own will and willingly gave Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, knowing the glory that would follow the suffering. [\[Hebrews 12:2\]](#)
- ✧ His intent that all that was written about Him must be fulfilled, was revealed in His words of His prayer, "Not my Will, but Yours, be done," [\[Matthew 26:39, Mark 14:35-36, Luke 22:41-42\]](#)
- ✧ Jesus said to the two on the way to Emmaus: "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" And **beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.** [\[Luke 24:25-27\]](#)
- ✧ Then later to the Disciples after the two reported seeing Jesus on the road and in Emmaus, Jesus appeared and said: "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with

you, that **all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**" [\[Luke 24:44\]](#)

✧ After an hour, Jesus returned and found them sleeping. "Could you not watch with Me for one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." [\[Matthew 26:40-41, Mark 14:37-38, Luke 22:40, 46\]](#)

✧ After four cups of wine at the Passover supper, and the lateness of the hour, it is not surprising that they would be sleeping.

✧ Yet Jesus wanted them to watch and pray to be strengthened against the temptation that was to come. [\[Matthew 26:41, Mark 14:38, Luke 22:40\]](#)

✧ They were to be on guard against the band that would accompany Judas when he arrived to betray Jesus.

✧ Jesus wants us to choose to go a step beyond our nature, to deliberately resist sleep and stay awake, when we need to be praying in preparation for what lies ahead, especially when Jesus has told us in advance what is coming.

✧ Jesus went again to His prayer saying the same words. [\[Matthew 26:42, Mark 14:39\]](#)

✧ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. [\[Luke 22:43\]](#)

✧ And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. [\[Luke 22:44\]](#)

✧ This demonstrates the intensity of His prayer and desire to avoid the coming abuse and death, yet His determination to do the will of the Father.

✧ When He returned He found them sleeping. [\[Matthew 26:43, Mark 14:40\]](#)

✧ Jesus went away the third time and prayed the same prayer. [\[Matthew 26:44, Mark 14:41\]](#)

✧ When Jesus returned to the disciples the third time and found them sleeping. [\[Matthew 26:45, Mark 14:41\]](#)

✧ He understood their need for sleep, but also knew that the betrayer was approaching with the soldiers to arrest Him.

✧ Jesus said to them, "Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners, rise, let us be going. See, he who betrays Me is at hand." [\[Matthew 26:45-46, Mark 14:41-42\]](#)

✧ The soldiers who came with Judas were sent by the High Priest and the Counsel of the Scribes, Elders, Chief Priests, and Pharisees. That is the highest authority of the Jewish religious leadership, and Jesus called them "sinners." [\[Matthew 26:45, Mark 14:43, John 18:2-3\]](#)