Mark

The **Gospel** of the **Servant of God**

I. The ***Service*** of the **Servant** (1:1-10:52)

II. The ***Sacrifice*** of the **Servant** (11:1-16:20)

C. **His *Teachings*** in **Jerusalem** (11:20-14:52)

1. The ***Power*** of **Faith** (11:20-26)
2. The ***Probing*** **Question** on **Authority** (11:27-33)
3. The ***Parable*** of the **Wicked Vine-growers** (12:1-12)
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7. The ***Personal*** **Devotion** of **Mary of Bethany** (14:1-11)
8. The ***Passover*** **Feast** (14:12-25)

9. The ***Path*** to **Betrayal** (14:26-52)

a. **Messiah's *Prediction*** concerning the **Disciples** (14:26-31)

[26] After **singing** a **hymn**, they went out to the **Mount of Olives**.

[27] And **Jesus** said to **them** (disciples), "**You** will **all** **fall away**, because it is **written**,
'I WILL **STRIKE DOWN** THE **SHEPHERD**, AND THE **SHEEP** SHALL BE **SCATTERED**.'

[28] But after **I have** been **raised**, I will **go ahead** of you to **Galilee**."

[29] But **Peter** said to **Him**, "*Even* though **all** may **fall away**, yet **I will not**."

[30] And **Jesus** said to him, "**Truly I** say to you, that this **very night**,
before a **rooster crows twice**, **you** yourself will **deny Me *three times***."

[31] But ***Peter*** kept saying **insistently,** "*Even* if I have to **die** with **You,**
I will not deny You!" And they **all** were saying the **same thing** also.

b. **Messiah's *Prayer*** of **Deep Anguish** (14:32-42)

[32] They came to a place named **Gethsemane;** and **He** said to **His disciples**,
"**Sit here** until I have **prayed**."

[33] And **He took** with **Him Peter** and **James** and **John**,
and began to be **very distressed** and **troubled**.

[34] And **He** said to them, "**My soul** is **deeply grieved** to the point of **death**;
remain here and **keep watch**."

[35] And **He** went a little beyond *them*, and **fell** to the **ground** and *began* to **pray**
that if it were *possible*, **the hour** might **pass Him by**.

[36] 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**."

[37] And **He came** and found them **sleeping,** and said to **Peter,**
"**Simon**, are you **asleep**? Could you **not keep *watch*** for **one hour?**

[38] Keep ***watching*** and ***praying*** that you may **not** come into **temptation**;
the **spirit** is ***willing***, but the **flesh** is ***weak.***"

[39] Again **He** went away and **prayed**, saying the same words.

[40] And again **He came** and found them **sleeping,**
for their eyes were very **heavy**; and they did not know what to **answer Him**.

[41] And **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**.

[42] **Get up**, let us be going; behold, the **one** who **betrays Me** is **at hand!"**

c. **Messiah's *Persecution*** and **Arrest** at **Gethsemane** (14:43-52)

[43] **Immediately** while **He** was still **speaking, Judas**, one of the **twelve,**
came up accompanied by a **crowd** with **swords** and **clubs**,
who were from the **chief priests** and the **scribes** and the **elders.**

[44] Now **he** who was **betraying Him** had given them a ***signal,*** saying,
"Whomever **I kiss**, **He** is the **one**; **seize Him** and **lead Him** away under **guard.**"

[45] After coming, **Judas** immediately went to **Him**, saying, **"Rabbi!"** and **kissed Him**.

[46] They **laid hands** on **Him** and **seized Him**. [47] But **one** of those who **stood by**
drew his **sword,** and struck the **slave** of the **high priest** and *cut off* his **ear**.

[48] And **Jesus** said to **them,** "Have you come out with **swords** and **clubs**
to **arrest Me,** as *you would* against **a *robber*?**

[49] **Every day** I was **with you** in the **temple teaching**, and you did ***not*** **seize Me**;
but *this has taken place* to **fulfill** the **Scriptures."**
[50] And they ***all*** **left Him** and **fled**.

[51] A **young man** was **following Him**, wearing *nothing but* a **linen sheet**
over *his* naked *body*; and they **seized him**.

[52] But he **pulled free** of the **linen sheet** and **escaped naked**.

Jesus' Hour of *Stress* and *Anguish*
What can we Learn ?

A. On the **path** towards **Gethsemane Jesus** declared to **Peter** and the **disciples** that they would all **"fall away"** from **Him,** when **He** was **taken** and **arrested** that night. For is was **written**, "I WILL **STRIKE DOWN** THE **SHEPHERD**, AND THE **SHEEP** SHALL BE **SCATTERED**." Even though they responded, **Peter** especially, that they would **never leave Him**, **Jesus** knew that they would **scatter** when **He** was **taken away** (14:27-31).

Jesus was **not alarmed** that **His disciples** would **all "fall away"** when **He** was **arrested,** and put to **death.** For a **short season** they would not have their **Lord** and **Shepherd,** and things would seem **dire** and **uncertain** to them. **Jesus** was **sustained** by the **sure hope** of **His resurrection**, and that **He** would soon ***rejoin*** **His disciples** in **Galilee** (14:28).

As ***believers***, when we face a **season** of **trial** and **difficulty**, we can be **strengthened** by the **hope** of our **future resurrection,** and **reunion** with **our Lord** in a **"heavenly" Galilee**.

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B. **Jesus,** knowing the **severe trial He** was about to face, sought the **support** and **prayers** of **His close companions**, ***Peter, James,*** **and *John*** (14:33, 38). **He** openly **shared** with them **His deep grief** over what **He** would soon have **to face**—**His death** on the **cross** (Mark 14:34). As **believers**, when we are experiencing **anguish** and **severe trials** in our lives, **we *also*** are to **seek support** from **loved ones** and **close friends**.

C. As **He** went beyond where **His disciples** were, **Jesus fell** to the ground and began to **pray**. **He** was about to **face *trials, anguish***, and ***pain*** like **no other man** would **ever do**.

→**He** would soon be on **trial**, and face **severe accusations** and **ridicule**

→**He** would soon be **wrongly accused**, and **rejected** by the **people**

→**He** would soon be **mocked** and **physically abused**.

→**He** would soon be **nailed** to a **cross**, **derided**, and **be in agony**.

→While on the **cross, He** would **suffer greatly** as **He bore** the **sins** of the **world** in **His body**.

→**He** would **redeem us** through the **shedding** of **His blood**, and **pay** the **penalty** of **death** for the **sins** of **all men (Ephesians 1:7)** (Hebrews 10:12-14). It is written that "by the **grace** of **God He** might **taste death** for **everyone** (Hebrews 2:9b)."

Knowing that **He** would **suffer** these things, we read tonight that **Jesus** was **deeply grieved** and **suffered great stress**. **His anguish** was so *intense* that as **He prayed fervently**, **His sweat** became like **drops of blood** falling to the ground (Luke 22:44).

Jesus prayed to **His Father** to see, if it was possible, that this **"hour"** might **pass** from **Him,** and that this **"cup"** would be **removed** from **Him** (Mark 14:35-36).

Finally, when it became apparent that **Jesus** would have to **face** this **"hour," He faithfully** and **obediently** declared to **His Father**, "yet **not** what **I will**, but what **You will** (Mark 14:36)."

As ***believers,*** when we face **severe *stress, anguish, pain***, and **even *death,*** is this not the **ultimate cry** from **our hearts** as **God** gives us **strength**, "**Lord**, **not** what **I will**, but what **You will**."

D. As **Jesus prayed fervently** in **His darkest hour**, **He** kept admonishing **His** three companions to keep **watching** and **praying,** lest they come into **temptation.** Knowing that **they** would soon face their **own time** of **testing**, **Jesus warned** them to be **alert**, and that "the **spirit** is ***willing,*** but the **flesh** is ***weak*** (Mark 14:37-40)."

Jesus' exhortation speaks to ***believers*** in *every* generation. We need to be **watchful** and **prayerful** for **ourselves** and for **one another**. It's **not easy** to be **vigilant** in **prayer** for the "**spirit** is indeed **willing**, but our **flesh** is ***weak***."

E. In **Jesus' time** of **deep anguish** and **pain, His prayer** was **heard** and **He** was **helped**. In **Luke** we read that "an **angel** from **heaven** appeared to **Him**, **strengthening Him** (Luke 22:43)."

I **believe** that whatever **hardship, pain**, and **tragedy** we face, **God** will **give us grace** to **help** in time of **need**. I **believe He personally *hears*** the **anguish** of **our hearts**, and **gives mercy** and **strength** to **endure** and **overcome** *whatever* **we** may face. For ***believers***, "**weeping** may **endure** for the ***night,*** but **joy** comes in the ***morning***." (Ps. 30:5)

In this life we face the **pain** and **evil** of a **corrupt creation** that surrounds us. **Jesus** did

as well, but **He** had a **wonderful hope**, and through **His love** and **sacrifice**, **we** have that **hope too**. The writer of **Hebrews** exhorts us to consider our **Savior's model of faith** and **endurance**:

Therefore, since we have so great a **cloud of *witnesses*** surrounding **us,**
let us also **lay aside** every encumbrance and the **sin** which so easily **entangles us**,
and let us **run** with ***endurance*** the **race** that is set before us,

fixing our **eyes on Jesus**, the **author** and **perfecter** of **faith**,
who for the **joy** set before **Him endured the cross, despising the *shame***,
and has **sat down** at the **right hand** of the **throne of God**.

For *consider* **Him** who has ***endured*** such **hostility** by **sinners** *against* **Himself,**
so that you will **not grow weary** and **lose heart**. (Hebrews 12:1-3)