

June 12–18

Luke 22; John 18

“Not My Will, but Thine, Be Done”



Gethsemane

Mark 14:32-34

Knowing what His mission was from the beginning, why do you think Jesus was “sore amazed”, “very heavy”, and “exceeding sorrowful”?

Neal A. Maxwell

“In Gethsemane, the suffering Jesus began to be ‘sore amazed’ or, in the Greek, ‘awestruck’ and “astonished.’

“Imagine, Jehovah, the Creator of this and other worlds, ‘astonished’! Jesus knew cognitively what He must do, but not experientially. He had never personally known the exquisite and exacting process of an atonement before. Thus, when the agony came in its fulness, it was so much, much worse than even He with his unique intellect had ever imagined! No wonder an angel appeared to strengthen him!” (CR, April 1985)

Gethsemane

Mark 14:35-36

In what way is Jesus the ultimate example of submitting our will to God?

Why did the Father need to let His Son go through this great suffering?

What can we learn about going thru trials from Jesus' experience?

What can we learn from Jesus' example about how we should pray?

Neal A. Maxwell

“The anguished Jesus... pled with the Father that the hour and cup might pass from Him, but with this relevant citation. And he said, ‘Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me.’...

“In this extremity, did He, perchance, hope for a rescuing ram in the thicket? I do not know.... Even so, Jesus maintained this sublime submissiveness, as He had in Gethsemane: ‘Nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.’” (CR, April 1985)

Spencer W. Kimball

“Did he not pray in Gethsemane: ‘O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.’

“Then as the time passed, and no positive answer came to his supplication, he cried out again in his torture: ‘O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.’

“In the first prayer he still seemed to have a glimmer of hope that something could be done about it, but in the latter it seemed to have been definitely settled.” (CR, April 1945)

Carol F. McConkie

“As the Savior entered the Garden of Gethsemane, His soul was exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death. In His agony, the only one He could turn to was His Father.... Though sinless, the Savior was called upon to ‘[suffer] pains and afflictions and temptations of every kind,’ including the sicknesses and infirmities of His people. ‘[He] suffereth according to the flesh that he might take upon him the sins of his people, that he might blot out their transgressions according to the power of his deliverance’ (Alma 7:11,13). Three times He prayed, ‘Father, thy will be done.’ The cup was not removed. In humble, faithful prayer He was strengthened to go forward and fulfill His divine mission to prepare for our salvation, that we might repent, believe, obey, and obtain the blessings of eternity.” (CR, Oct. 2016)

Richard G. Scott

How grateful I am personally [for what] our Savior taught.... Your willingness to accept the will of the Father will not change what, in His wisdom, He has chosen to do. However, it will certainly change the effect of those decisions on you personally.” (CR, Oct. 1995)

Quentin L. Cook

“The atoning trials the Savior faced in Gethsemane and on the cross are a great example to us. He faced mental, physical, and spiritual afflictions that are beyond our comprehension.... As His disciples, there will be times when we will be tried and persecuted unjustly and mocked unfairly and face temporal and spiritual storms of a magnitude that will seem unbearable to us and experience bitter cups that we pray would pass from us. No one is exempt from the storms of life.” (CR, April 2010)

James E. Faust

“No more poignant prayer was ever uttered than that given by the Savior in the Garden of Gethsemane. He withdrew from His Apostles, knelt, and prayed, ‘Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.’ An important element of all of our prayers might well be to follow the pattern of that prayer in Gethsemane: ‘not my will, but thine, be done.’ By this, then, we acknowledge our devotion and submission to the overriding purposes of the Lord in our lives. As He said, ‘If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you’ (John 15:7). What a glorious day it will be for each of us when we pray with confidence that ‘if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us’ (1 John 5:14).” (CR, April 2002)

Gethsemane

Luke 22:43-44

Dallin H. Oaks

“Here we see the Savior’s absolute faith and trust in the Father. ‘Nevertheless,’ he said, ‘not my will, but thine be done.’ The Father’s answer was to deny the plea of his Only Begotten Son. The Atonement had to be worked out by that lamb without blemish. But though the Son’s request was denied, his prayer was answered. The scripture records: ‘And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.’”
(CR, April 1994)

D&C 19:16-20

16 For behold, I, God, have suffered these things for all, that they might not suffer if they would repent;

17 But if they would not repent they must suffer even as I;

18 Which suffering caused myself, even God, the greatest of all, to tremble because of pain, and to bleed at every pore, and to suffer both body and spirit—and would that I might not drink the bitter cup, and shrink—

19 Nevertheless, glory be to the Father, and I partook and finished my preparations unto the children of men.

20 Wherefore, I command you again to repent, lest I humble you with my almighty power; and that you confess your sins, lest you suffer these punishments of which I have spoken, of which in the smallest, yea, even in the least degree you have tasted at the time I withdrew my Spirit.

Gethsemane

Matt 26:40-44

Spencer W. Kimball

"That brings to my thought, am I asleep; are you asleep? Are you taking for granted all of the joys and blessings of this world without thinking of the eternities that are to come beyond? Are we asleep? Are we his disciples called by him to serve and to teach and to train, and are we asleep? That question always reaches into my heart. 'Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'" (The Teachings of Spencer W. Kimball, edited by Edward L. Kimball, pg.152)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

John 18:2-9

In what way does Jesus demonstrate courage, commitment, and love when he was arrested?

Alma Sonne

“When the Roman soldiers came to arrest the Master. As they entered, Jesus said to these hard-faced men, ‘Whom seek ye?’ ... They answered, ‘Jesus of Nazareth.’ ‘I am he,’ responded the Lord, and then, characteristic of his great soul, he said, ‘If therefore ye seek me, let these go their way,’ referring, of course, to his disciples.

“The writer of that circumstance gives one more sentence, which reads, ‘And Judas stood with them.’ I wonder what the thoughts of Judas were as he stood there witnessing the courage and love of Jesus, whom he had already betrayed.” (CR, April 1955)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

Matt 26:50-55

Why did Jesus willing allow the high priest to arrest Him?

LeGrand Richards

“Just think of who it is we serve, and the power that God gave to him. No wonder when he was upon the earth he said to Peter that he could call down legions of angels to protect him, when Peter drew his sword and smote off the ear of the guard. No wonder he said, ‘No man taketh my life from me. The Father hath given me power to lay it down and take it up again’ (see John 10:18).” (CR, April 1961)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

Luke 22:56-61

Why do you think Peter became weak at this time and denied Christ?

What do you think changed Peter into the fearless and devoted advocate for Christ that he became?

John Taylor

“No man is strong unless he be strong in the Lord. No man is sustained only as God sustains him.... We sometimes think we are strong and that we can do a great deal. So thought Peter.... The Savior doubtless appreciated his feelings, but knowing better than he the frailty of humanity, he said unto him, ‘... before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.’ Did he do it? Yes, he did; but Jesus did not get angry with him, nor begin to upbraid him and speak angry words to him. He knew too well the weakness of mortal man, and he knew it before that time.” (JD, 20:256)

Harold B. Lee

“What was it that had changed [Peter]? He had been a personal witness to the change which came to the broken, pain-racked, body taken from the cross, to a glorified resurrected body.... The plain and simple answer is, that Peter was a changed man because he knew the power of the risen Lord. No more would he be alone on the shores of Galilee, or in prison, or in death. His Lord would be near him.” (CR, April 1958)

Moses Thatcher

“Unaided by the power of God, we might be placed under circumstances that would cause us to fear and tremble and possibly plead for life at the sacrifice of allegiance to Him. Under the pressure of fear Peter denied his Lord and Master, but that transpired before he was ‘endowed with power from on high’ (Luke 24:49). From the day of Pentecost, when he received the Comforter, until his death no power on earth or beneath could have induced him to do such a thing. This fact is attested beyond doubt, by what we know of his life and labors.” (JD, 23:196)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

John 18:12-14,19-24

James E. Talmage

“When Jesus... was brought in, a bound Prisoner, He was immediately put upon trial in contravention of the law.... No legal hearing on a capital charge could lawfully be held except in the appointed and official courtroom of the Sanhedrin....

“The Prisoner was first subjected to an interrogative examination by the high priest in person..... Such a preliminary inquiry was utterly unlawful; for the Hebrew code provided that the accusing witnesses in any cause before the court should define their charge against the accused, and that the latter should be protected from any effort to make him testify against himself. The Lord’s reply should have been a sufficient protest to the high priest against further illegal procedure.” (Jesus the Christ, pg. 576-577)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

Mark 14:55-59

Why is it obvious that the trial of Jesus before the Council was contrived?

James E. Talmage

“Jesus was to be convicted on some charge or other, and be put to death, had been already determined by the priestly judges; their failure to find witnesses against Him threatened to delay the carrying out of their nefarious scheme...`

“They had unlawfully caused Jesus to be arrested at night; they were illegally going through the semblance of a trial at night; their purpose was to convict the Prisoner in time to have Him brought before the Roman authorities as early as possible in the morning-as a criminal duly tried and adjudged worthy of death. The lack of two hostile witnesses who would tell the same falsehoods was a serious hindrance.” (Jesus the Christ, pg. 577)

Jesus Allows Himself to be Arrested

Mark 14:60-64

What did the Sanhedrin Council accuse Jesus of?

James E. Talmage

“Thus the judges in Israel, comprising the high priest, the chief priests, the scribes and elders of the people, the Great Sanhedrin, unlawfully assembled, decreed that the Son of God was deserving of death, on no evidence save that of His own acknowledgment. By express provision the Jewish code forbade the conviction, specifically on a capital charge, of any person on his own confession.” (Jesus the Christ, pg. 580)

Next Week:

June 19–25

Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19

“It Is Finished”

