

He Went A Little Further

“Not my will, but Thine be done”!

TEXT: Matthew 26: 17-39

1. THE SOLEMN PASSOVER:

- A. An expectant host; a prepared place! (vs. 18 - arranged in eternity past!)
- B. News more strange than His talk of crucifixion (vs. 2)
 - 1. One of His own will betray Him (vs. 21)
 - 2. The disciples' pitiful plea: “*Lord, is it I?*”
- C. The Last Supper observed (vs. 26)
 - 1. His broken body (“*which is*” - already counted “done”! In His body He suffered in my stead)
 - 2. His shed blood (the price of eternal redemption - 1 Peter 1: 18-20, Hebrews 9: 22)
 - 3. The divine vouchsafe of glory to come! (vs. 29 - from *abstinence* to ultimate *exultation*!)
 - 4. They sung a hymn... (what did they sing? I believe it is reserved for that glorious day!)

2. THE SORROWFUL FOREBODING:

- A. All offended because of Christ this night! (vs. 31 - Fulfilled Scripture! - Zechariah 13: 7)
 - * Offended? (“Made to stumble”) * By Christ? The Son of the Living God?
- B. The promise of resurrection! (vs. 32 - an “appointed meeting place” - “There is going to be...”)
- C. The rash promise that would bring Peter to shame! (vs. 33-35 - “*thou shalt deny me thrice*”)
 - * Restoration at the sea shore: “*Lovest thou me?*” - 3 times! - John 21: 15-17)

3. THE AGONY OF THE GARDEN:

- A. Gethsemane had been the place of rest; of hallowed communion with the Father (vs. 36-39)
 - 1. Now becomes a war zone! The epic of eternity!
 - 2. The “inner circle” (Peter, James & John) brought apart - “*Tarry here and watch*”
- B. His Soul weighed down with sorrow and heaviness - to the point of death!
 - * All the hounds of Hell tormented: “Kill Him now!” “Kill Him now!”
- C. And He went a little further (vs. 39)
 - 1. He fell prostrate before the Father - absolute desperation!
 - 2. The “bitter cup”? What was it? (Mark 14: 35-36)
 - * The hour of divine agony and indignation against the reprehensibility of sin!
- D. The greatest prayer ever uttered! “*Not my will, but thine be done!*”

DEAR GOD! Oh, for hearts that will once again pray that prayer for themselves! Come! Pray!