

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Courage of the Savior

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

Matthew 26:1-46

Theme: Marvel at the Savior's courage so that you may receive his reward.

Introduction: The Gospels tell us many things about Jesus—not everything we'd like to know, but all that we need to know. And in those 4, relatively small books, we find a disproportionate number of pages dedicated to the final week of Jesus' life. The Gospel writers want to make sure we know the significance of what our Savior did in his final week. Matthew especially wants to us see our Lord reigning over even his suffering and death. We must see Jesus as he truly is if we would benefit from him.

We see 7 scenes in this passage, under 3 categories:

1. Prepared for burial (1-13)

Scene 1: Jesus foretells his death and crucifixion *during* Passover.

Scene 2: The chief priests and elders gather at the palace to plot Jesus' secret death, *after* the Passover. Jesus' plan will be fulfilled, not his enemies'.

Scene 3: Jesus and the disciples at home of Simon the leper. A woman (Mary) pours a very expensive ointment over him, anointing him. The disciples are indignant, but Jesus praises her and promises that her act will be famous.

2. Set-up for betrayal (14-30)

Scene 4: Judas seeks out the Jewish leaders to betray Jesus for 30 pcs of silver.

Scene 5: Jesus gathers his disciples for the last supper. He reveals that one of them will betray him. He also gives them the sacrament of the Lord's Supper (bread & wine), proclaiming the New Covenant (Jer 31) fulfilled in his death.

3. Appointed for abandonment (31-46)

Scene 6: Jesus leads the disciples to the Mt. of Olives, and foretells their abandoning him. They all deny it, and Peter most strongly. Jesus tells Peter that he will deny the Lord 3 times.

Scene 7: Jesus takes Peter, James, and John with him to pray apart from the other disciples. He asks the Father to remove the cup of his wrath, if possible, while clearly submitting to the Father's will. The disciples fail to comfort him, falling asleep, but Jesus perseveres in faith. He is ready to meet his betrayer.

Questions:

1. What does it mean that Jesus bore the wrath of God for your sin? What reward does he offer you?
2. How are you prone to self-confidence, rather than humble reliance on the Lord?
3. Do you equate frugality with righteousness?