"NEXT: Blood, Sweat and Tears"
Luke 22:39-46
October 30, 2016

Screen 1
Screen 2

Jesus' first recorded prayer in Luke > within this series, "Next", we've discussed:

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- Jesus' baptism in **Luke 3:15-23** where Jesus prays during his baptism, the sky is split, the Holy Spirit descends on Him in bodily form and the voice of God the Father says, "Your are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased" (**vs. 23**). This account sets the foundation for Jesus prayers in Luke's gospel. Every time He prays something extraordinary happens.

- We also discussed the fact that immediately following Jesus' prayer at his baptism, He was tempted in **Luke 4:1-13** for 40+ days with the **mouth**, the **eyes** and the **ego** and He passed that test - being ministered by his prayer at his baptism. **[The sustaining power of prayer] - through temptation -**

- We actually began this series with Jesus calling his 12 disciples in **Luke 6:12-19** after he pulled an all nighter in prayer (**vs. 12**). (Jesus' second recorded prayer in Luke.) (correct decision making) **[Prayer gives the ability]**

- We also discussed the third recorded prayer of Jesus in **Luke 9:18-27**, as Jesus prays in this account, he pauses to ask his disciples "Who do men say that I am?", then he zeros in on them personally with the question "Who do you (emphatic) say that I am? (**vs. 20**). Peter replies, "The Christ of God." this question and answer immediately following Jesus' prayer/praying becomes the turning point in his ministry - where he begins to speak openly about his passion. **[prayer gives Jesus the ability to communicate important truths at just the right time]** - timing

- Last week we discussed the "Chosen One" from **Luke 9:28-36**, (Jesus' fourth recorded prayer in Luke) when Jesus is transfigured/ altered in front of Peter, John and James on the Mountain, **while praying** and then he has a conversation with Moses and Elijah from glory. Peter offers to build tents/booths in honor of Jesus, Moses and Elijah, then the mountain is engulfed with a cloud and God, the Father, speaks saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One, listen to him." (**vs. 35**), proving himself to be superior to both Moses and Elijah, God's servants. [prayer enables Jesus to reveal just exactly who and what he really is, i.e. GOD]

- **Luke 11:1-13**, the Lord's Prayer, was Luke's fifth recorded prayer of Jesus.

(Jesus' sixth recorded prayer in Luke) Today we are going to discuss the very last prayer of Jesus before he goes to the cross and we shall see how Luke revisits the very same theme or teaching about prayer as his very first account of Jesus praying in **Luke 3:15-23**. The sustaining power of prayer that will enable him to obey (obedience is the key) the perfect will of the Father for his life. **The pressure on Jesus - the stress on him is the highest it will ever be.**

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(First 5 prayers Luke 1 - 11; final prayer [before the cross] Luke 22)

Luke 18:1 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. **(hear and pray)**

Screen 5

Pray over pressure/stress for our **nation** and individuals.

Luke 22:39 And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him.

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"and he came out" - of where? The upper room where he had just instituted the Lord's Supper (**Luke 22:7-38**). The whole conversation of these verses take place in that upper room. Now, Jesus leaves.

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"as was his custom" - this can be seen, also in: **Luke 21:37** And every day he was teaching in the temple, but at night he went out and lodged on the mount called Olivet.

"to the Mount of Olives" - both **Matthew 26:36-46** and **Mark 14:32-42** tell us the exact location was the Garden of Gethsemane. "Gethsemane" means "oil press" - olive oil.

Screen 8 Garden of Geth.

Luke 5:16 But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

This was Jesus' custom to withdraw and pray (how about you?) and plus, he would often go to the Garden of Gethsemane. This is astonishing in light of the fact that Jesus knew exactly what was about to happen. Remember, going to that garden took him literally through the Kidron Valley - the valley of the shadow of death - an ancient cemetery that also had the smell of blood in it from all the sacrifices from the Passover… Most people would have run from what awaited our Lord ➜ He ran to the Father to get the strength to endure/obey! Once he got to the garden ➜ he easily could have taken off and gotten away from the authorities.

Screen 9

"and the disciples followed him" (Judas was not with them) - hear me - this would soon change. "followed" is used 77 times in the New Testament. All but one refer to following Jesus. See **Mark 14:13** And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him,

Screen 10

Luke 22:40 And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Screen 11

Notice Jesus begins his time in the garden with a lesson on prayer and to pray.

"temptation" - this is the way Jesus modeled prayer for the disciples back in:

Luke 11:4 and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation."

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God will always make a way of escape from this. See **1 Corinthians 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Screen 13

What exactly were they going to be tempted to do? Disown Jesus - **they** - none of them are even recorded either here or in Matthew or Mark as praying. Yhey did not **listen** to him (like from last week - word from the Father).

I wonder how this account would read if they had listened to him and done what he said? > ONLY GOD KNOWS <

"PRAY AND DON'T LOSE HEART!" **(LUKE 18:1)**

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Luke 22:41 And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed,

In Luke several details are not given that are given by Matthew and Mark:

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- No Gethsemane named
- No singling out Peter, James and John

- No three times Jesus going into the garden deeper to pray and then coming back
- No rebuke by Jesus for not praying
- No "the hour has come" statement

Peter, James and John would have gone deeper into the garden with Jesus - the other eight disciples stayed a "stone throw away".

"he knelt down and prayed" - put your seat belts on . . . "The world is about to change, again!!!"

Luke 22:42 saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." Screen 16

"cup" - is a metaphor for Jesus' suffering.

Isaiah 51:17 Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem,you who have drunk from the hand of the Lord the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering. Screen 17

Isaiah 51:22 Thus says your Lord, the Lord, your God who pleads the cause of his people: "Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering; the bowl of my wrath you shall drink no more; Screen 18

Jeremiah 25:15 Thus the Lord, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. Screen 19

Jeremiah 49:12 For thus says the Lord: "If those who did not deserve to drink the cup must drink it, will you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, but you must drink. Screen 20

Lamentations 4:21 Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, you who dwell in the land of Uz; but to you also the cup shall pass; you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.

Psalm 75:8 For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup with foaming wine, well mixed, and he pours out from it, and all the wicked of the earth shall drain it down to the dregs.

He prayed this terrible impending experience climaxed by the cross and the complete sense of abandonment might be spared him. He prayed that the Father's will be done - to supersede his will…

Luke 22:43 And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. Screen 21

"an angel from heaven, strengthening him" - I love this…

Angels are all over the book of Luke from its mentioned/named 24 times - the most of any of the four gospels.

"angel" - singular - I wonder if it was Gabriel (from **Luke 1**). **Who was the angel?➜➜➜**

Luke 22:44 And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. Screen 22

Here we are told, like verse 43, what we are not told anywhere else in the Gospel/the Bible.

➜ Jesus was in so much "agony" - this is the only place this word in this form is used in the Bible. ➜It comes from a word that was used of the Greeks to describe a contest in the Olympics. Who is he fighting/in contest with? The devil and all his demons" Himself? Probably both! Screen 23 **agony/agon research➜➜➜**

"he prayed more earnestly" - more intense, more fervently

"his sweat became like great drops of blood" - some scholars try to reason this verse (and verse 43) away by saying it is not authentic - I disagree.

Jesus feared ➜ but he never sinned!

Screen 24

Jesus stressed ➜ but he never sinned!

It's fascinating that Dr. Luke would include this occurance of hematidrosis. "Subcutaneous capillaries to dilate to such an extent that they will burst." The capillaries tend to burst near the sweat glands. It has been seen in prisoners before their executions. Very rare.

Information on hematidrosis ➜➜➜

Jesus went through this much suffering, discomfort for us (and oftentimes we don't even want to give to him anything or do anything that is not uncomfortable for/to us.

THE STRESS OF A PRISONER ON DEATH ROW, ABOUT TO BE EXECUTED, WHEN HE IS COMPLETELY INNOCENT - THE LAMB OF GOD…

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Somewhere in that prayer of all prayers - in the garden - i.e. "the oil press", the Savior's blood was "pressed" out of him by the stress of the situation; of what lie before him.

But, it was there and where he made his final decision to not run and hide and "play it safe" but to accomplish everything that lay before him;

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Luke 22:45 And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow,

Luke 22:46 and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

"and when he rose from prayer" - it was settled.

Here, he comes to Peter, James and John and found them sleeping. Jesus rose from prayer but he demands his disciples to "rise and pray" - they never did so.

He prayed and therefore he was able to withstand - **go through my Bible here - and then offer two last prayers from the cross.**

Luke 23:34 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. Screen 27

Luke 23:46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. Screen 28

He lived and dies faithful - obedient through the strengthening power of prayer. (Just like he began his prayer journey in **Luke 3:15-23; 4:1-13** at his prayer during baptism - temptation.

Presidential Election stress/anxiety➜➜➜

> Prayer and Invitation

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