



# THE WEEK THAT CHANGED ETERNITY



FIRST MELISSA



**Passion Week includes a multitude of events and trials we might not have chosen for our Savior, but He endured them for us.**

**This is a week that we need. Without it, we don't have a Savior.**



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# Passion Week Timeline



## Day 1: Palm Sunday

Jesus enters Jerusalem and is welcomed by the crowds waving palm branches.  
*(Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19)*

## Day 3: Holy Tuesday

Jesus evades ambush, gives Olivet discourse.  
*(Matthew 21:23-24:51, Mark 11:20-13:37, Luke 20:1-21:36, and John 12:20-38)*

## Day 5: Maundy Thursday

Last Supper, Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane.  
*(Matthew 26:17-75, Mark 14:12-72, Luke 22:7-62, and John 13:1-38)*

## Day 7: Black Saturday

Jesus' body lays in the tomb and is treated for burial; disciples come out of hiding and mourn openly.  
*(Matthew 27:62-66, Mark 16:1, Luke 23:56, and John 19:40)*

Sunday

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## Day 2: Holy Monday

Jesus curses the fruitless fig tree, enters the temple and clears out the corrupted money changers.  
*(Matthew 21:12-22, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48, and John 2:13-17)*

## Day 4: Spy Wednesday

Jesus and disciples rest in Bethany. Judas agrees to betray Jesus.  
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## Day 6: Good Friday

Jesus is put on trial and crucified, then taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb.  
*(Matthew 27:1-62, Mark 15:1-47, Luke 22:63-23:56, and John 18:28-19:37)*

## Day 8: Resurrection Day

Multiple eyewitness accounts of Jesus having resurrected and the discovery of empty tomb.  
*(Matthew 28:1-13, Mark 16:1-14, Luke 24:1-49, and John 20:1-23)*



- The Bible has four books dedicated to describing Jesus' earthly life and ministry. What's amazing is how much the Gospels focus on Jesus' final week before the Cross.
- The breakdown according to each of the Gospels:
  - A third of Matthew, from Matthew 21-28
  - A third of Mark, from Mark 11-16
  - A quarter of Luke, from Luke 19-24
  - Nearly half of John, from John 12-20
- The Gospel of John is the most concentrated upon the last week of Jesus. Nearly a third of John's Gospel is dedicated to one day, from John 13-19.
- There are a **total of 89 chapters** from all four Gospels. Of those chapters, **29 focus on the final week**. These chapters comprise one-third of the Gospels.
- Andy Naselli said, "The Gospels are essentially passion narratives with extended introductions."



# Day & Location

Thursday in Jerusalem

Thursday outside Jerusalem

## Event

Disciples prepare Passover Supper

Jesus Washes Feet of Disciples

Jesus Identifies Betrayer

Ate Passover Meal (Lord's Supper) in Upper Room

Jesus predicts Peter's denial

Jesus comforts the disciples

Jesus' high priestly prayer

Jesus and disciples go to Gethsemane to pray

## Scripture Reference

Matt. 26:17-19; Mark 14:12-17

John 13:3-20

Matt. 26:20-25; Mark 14:17-21

Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25

Matt. 26:31-35; Mark 14:27-31

John 14:1-16:33

John 17:1-26

Matt. 26:36; Mark 14:32; Luke 22:39



Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?” And He said, “Go into the city [Jerusalem] to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is near; I am to keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.” ’ ” The disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover. Matthew 26:17-19



On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was being sacrificed, His disciples said to Him, “Where do You want us to go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?” And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him; and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is My guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?’” And he himself will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; prepare for us there.” The disciples went out and came to the city, and found it just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening He came with the twelve. Mark 14:12-17



When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this **Passover** with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, “Take this and share it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes.” Luke 22:14-18



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John 14:1-16:33

John 17:1-26

Matt. 26:36; Mark 14:32; Luke 22:39



**During the Passover meal  
(Last Supper),  
Jesus washed the  
feet of His disciples**

**John 13:3-15**



Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter." Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." John 13:3-9



Jesus said to him, “He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.” For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, “Not all of you are clean.” So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.”

John 13:10-15



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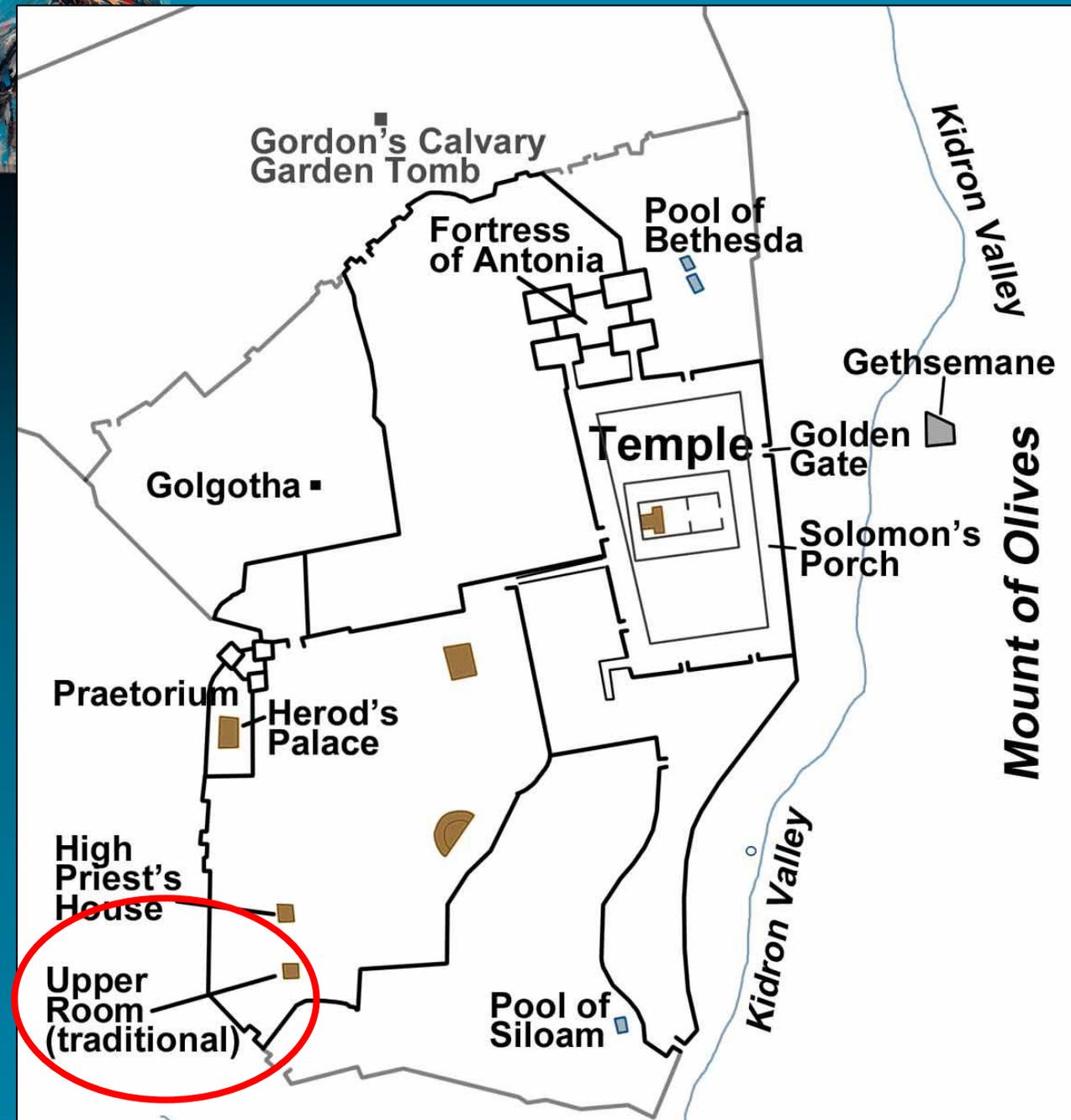
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# Map of Jerusalem in the days of Jesus



Upper Room today



**Jesus and His Disciples  
were celebrating Passover**

**Original Passover Story**

**Exodus 12**



Now the Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “This month [Nisan] shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you.” Exodus 12:1-2

Today is March 29, 2026

Today is Nisan 11, 5786



“Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘On the tenth of this month [Nisan] they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers’ households, a lamb for each household. Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons in them; according to what each man should eat, you are to divide the lamb.’” Exodus 12:3-4



**“Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month [Nisan], then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight [evening].” Exodus 12:5-6**



“Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that same night, roasted with fire, and **they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.** Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, both its head and its legs along with its entrails. And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire.” Exodus 12:7-10



“Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste—it is the **Lord’s** **Passover**. For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and **when I see the blood I will pass over you**, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.” Exodus 12:11-13



“ ‘Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it as a feast to the Lord; **throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance.**’ ”

Exodus 12:14



Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and take for yourselves lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover lamb. You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.” Exodus 12:21-22



“For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and **when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door** and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you. And you shall observe this event as an ordinance for you and your children forever.” Exodus 12:23-24



Now when (Thursday) evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the twelve disciples. As they were eating [Passover meal], He said, “Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me.” Being deeply grieved, they each one began to say to Him, “Surely not I, Lord?” And He answered, “He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me. The Son of Man is to go, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.” And Judas, who was betraying Him, said, “Surely it is not I, Rabbi?” Jesus said to him, “You have said it yourself.” Matthew 26:20-25



While they were eating, Jesus took some [unleavened] **bread** [matzah], and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” And when He had taken a **cup** and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.” Matthew 26:26-29



The four cups of wine represent four promises made to Israel by God in Exodus 6:6-7

**The first cup of wine is called the cup of sanctification (freedom)**

- It is to commemorate the promise: “I will bring you out.”

**The second cup is called the cup of plagues (deliverance)**

- It reflects the ten plagues that came upon Egypt – and it relates to the second promise: “I will free you from being slaves.”
- Ten Plagues: Blood. Frogs. Lice. Swarms. Cattle Disease. Boils. Hail. Locusts. Darkness. Death of the First Born.

**The third cup is called the cup of redemption**

- God says: “I will redeem you.”

**The fourth cup is called the cup of completion (hope, praise, thanks)**

- God says: “I will take you as my own people.”



# When we observe the Lord's Supper

## The Matzah (Unleavened Bread)

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Matthew 26:26

## The Cup

Third cup of wine is called the "Cup of Redemption"

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."

Matthew 26:27-28



# Jesus celebrated Passover at the Last Supper

- Jesus said, “He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me.”  
Matthew 26:23
  - Maror and Charoset, along with Matzah, are ingredients in the Seder meal
- While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” Matthew 26:26
  - Afikomen, the broken and hidden second piece of Matzah



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Wednesday, April 1 at 6:30 pm

# JESUS AND PASSOVER

A teaching demonstration by Pastor Trey Graham



Wednesday dinner at 5:30 by reservation

*[firstmelissa.com/wednesdays](http://firstmelissa.com/wednesdays)*

Student, Preschool and KIDS Ministries open at 6:15 pm



# Jesus is our Passover Lamb

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed. Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.” 1 Corinthians 5:7-8



After singing a hymn, they went  
out to the Mount of Olives.

Matthew 26:30

What did they sing?

Psalm 118:14-26



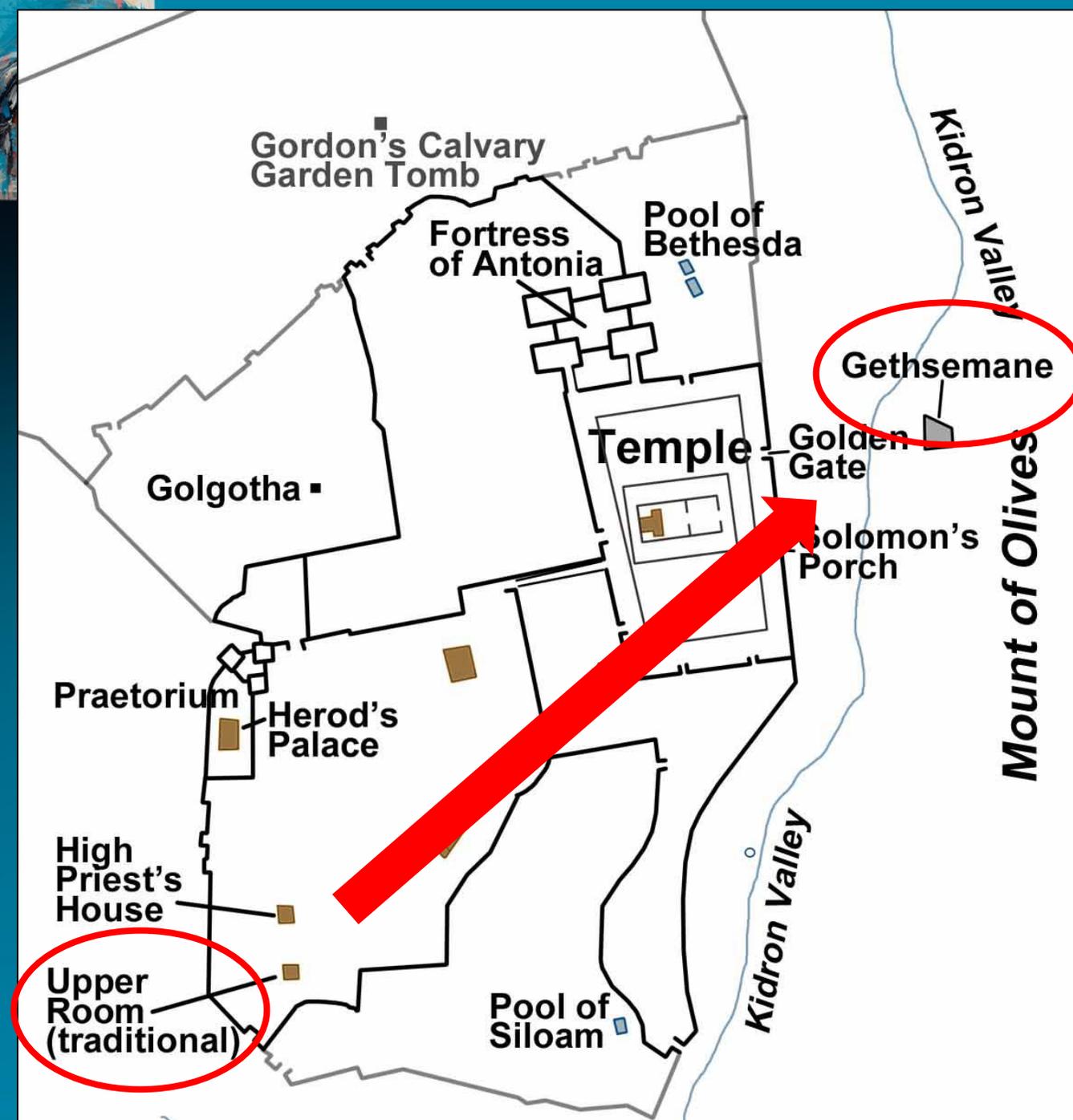
The Lord is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation [יְשׁוּעָה; *yeshua*]. The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly. The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly. **I will not die, but live, and tell of the works of the Lord.** The Lord has disciplined me severely, but He has not given me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness; I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous will enter through it. **I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me, and You have become my salvation.** The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O Lord, do save, we beseech You; O Lord, we beseech You, do send prosperity! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we have blessed you from the house of the Lord. Psalm 118:14-26



When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples. Now Judas also, who was betraying Him, knew the place, for Jesus had often met there with His disciples. John 18:1-2

And He came out and proceeded as was His custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him. Luke 22:39

# Map of Jerusalem in the days of Jesus



## Garden of Gethsemane today

Γεθσημανῆ in Greek

Gat shemanim גת שמנים in Hebrew

Hebrew meaning: "oil press" or "olive press"



## Jesus prayed three times in the Garden of Olive Press

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, "My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done." Again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!" Matthew 26:36-46



# Jesus prayed three times in the Garden of Olive Press

## Olives are pressed three times in the Olive Press

- **First press produces virgin olive oil used to light the Jewish temple.**

“You shall charge the sons of Israel, that they bring you clear oil of beaten olives for the light, to make a lamp burn continually.” Exodus 27:20

Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.” John 8:12
- **The oil from the second press is used for medicine.**

But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. Isaiah 53:5
- **The oil from the third press is used for making soap.**

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9



## Jesus prayed three times in the Garden of Olive Press

Again He went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. 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. Get up, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!”

Mark 14:39-42

And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

Luke 22:44 (medical condition of **Hematohidrosis**)



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# Garden of Gethsemane today





# Why Did Jesus Pray?

- Jesus said, “I and the Father are one.” John 10:30
- Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. Hebrews 5:8
- In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there. Mark 1:35
- Jesus said, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”  
John 6:38



# What Did Jesus Pray?

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.”

Mark 14:36

- For a **cup** is in the hand of the Lord, and the wine foams; it is well mixed, and He pours out of this; surely all the wicked of the earth must drain and drink down its dregs. Psalm 75:8
- Rouse yourself! Rouse yourself! Arise, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the Lord’s hand the **cup** of His anger; the chalice of reeling you have drained to the dregs. Isaiah 51:17
- For thus the Lord, the God of Israel, says to me, “Take this **cup** of the wine of wrath from My hand and cause all the nations to whom I send you to drink it.” Jeremiah 25:15



While He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he who was betraying Him gave them a sign, saying, “Whomever I kiss, He is the one; seize Him.” Immediately Judas went to Jesus and said, “Hail, Rabbi!” and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you have come for.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus reached and drew out his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels? How then will the Scriptures be fulfilled, which say that it must happen this way?” At that time Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me as you would against a robber? Every day I used to sit in the temple teaching and you did not seize Me. But all this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures of the prophets.” Then all the disciples left Him and fled. Matthew 26:47-56



# Who Arrested Jesus?

The group that arrested Jesus was composed of Roman soldiers and Jews. John makes it clear that both Jew and Gentile are guilty of the death of the Son of God. Jesus is about to die for the life of the world. The Jewish forces were the same as those sent to arrest Jesus once before (John 7:32, 45-46). They were not a police force but "court servants at the disposal of the Sanhedrin when necessary for police purposes."

The detachment of soldiers refers to a cohort, a group of 600 soldiers under a military tribune. The entire cohort would not have been deployed on this mission, but there would have been a significant force. The festivals in Jerusalem were always politically volatile, and after the welcome Jesus had received there was good reason to expect trouble. They bring torches to search for the Light of the World; they bring weapons against the Prince of Peace.

Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/IVP-NT/John/Jesus-Is-Arrested>

Judas brought no fewer than 200 soldiers and leaders from the chief priests and Pharisees. "The fact that Roman troops were there as well as temple police implies that the Jewish authorities had already approached the military command, indicating that they expected armed resistance to the officers."

Source: F.F. Bruce, quoted in Holman New Testament Commentary



# What Happens Next?

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**As Jesus was heading to the Cross,  
for whom did He pray?**

**John 17:13-18:1**



Jesus prayed, “But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that **they** may have My joy made full in themselves. I have given **them** Your word; and the world has hated **them**, because **they** are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take **them** out of the world, but to keep **them** from the evil one. **They** are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent **them** into the world. For **their** sakes I sanctify Myself, that **they** themselves also may be sanctified in truth. **I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;** that **they** may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that **they** also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.” John 17:13-21



“The glory which You have given Me I have given to **them**, that **they** may be one, just as We are one; I in **them** and You in Me, that **they** may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved **them**, even as You have loved Me. Father, I desire that **they** also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that **they** may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and **these** have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to **them**, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in **them**, and I in **them**.” When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden, in which He entered with His disciples. John 17:22-18:1



As Jesus was heading to the Cross, He was praying for **us**, that **we** might know Him and know His Heavenly Father.

Even in His suffering,  
He loved **us** that much.

Are **you** ready to follow Him?