

Gethsemane

by Oswald Chambers

The sermon emphasizes the significance of Gethsemane as the agony of God and Man in one, face to face with sin, and the importance of watching with Jesus through the revelation of the Bible and the circumstances of our lives.

Scripture: Matthew 16:24, Matthew 26:36, Matthew 26:40, Mark 8:34, Luke 22:28, John 6:66, Acts 1:8, Hebrews 13:13

Topics: "The Cross", "Spiritual Warfare"

Description

Oswald Chambers preaches about the profound agony Jesus faced in Gethsemane, where He grappled with the weight of sin as both God and Man, ultimately fulfilling His destiny as the Savior of the world through His sacrificial death on the cross. Chambers emphasizes the importance of watching with Jesus, aligning our perspective with His, and being willing to go through our own Gethsemane experiences in complete identification with Him. He challenges believers to not only be with Jesus in their own temptations but to also go with Him in His temptations, remaining loyal and steadfast in the face of trials and circumstances.

Transcript

"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, . . . tarry ye here, and watch with Me." Matthew 26:36, 38.

"We can never fathom the agony in Gethsemane, but at least we need not misunderstand it. It is the agony of God and Man in one, face to face with sin. We know nothing about Gethsemane in personal experience. Gethsemane and Calvary stand for something unique; they are the gateway into Life for us....

"It was not the death on the cross that Jesus feared in Gethsemane; He stated most emphatically that He came on purpose to die. In Gethsemane He feared lest He might not get through as Son of Man. He would get through as Son of God -- Satan could not touch Him there; but Satan's onslaught was that he would get through as an isolated Figure only; and that would mean that he could be no Savior....

"The agony in Gethsemane is the agony of the Son of God in fulfilling His destiny as the Saviour of the world. The veil is drawn aside to reveal all it cost Him to make it possible for us to become sons of God. His agony is the basis of the simplicity of our salvation. The Cross of Christ is a triumph for the son of Man. It was not only a sign that Our Lord had triumphed, but that He had triumphed to save the human race. Every human being can get through into the presence of God now because of what the Son of Man went

through." April 5

"Watch with Me." Matthew 26:40.

"Watch with Me"--with no private point of view of your own at all, but watch entirely with Me. In the early stages we do not watch with Jesus, we watch for Him. We do not watch with Him through the revelation of the Bible; in the circumstances of our lives. Our Lord is trying to introduce us to identification with Himself in a particular Gethsemane, and we will not go; we say--'No, Lord, I cannot see the meaning of this, it is bitter.' How can we possibly watch with Someone Who is inscrutable? How are we going to understand Jesus sufficiently to watch with Him in His Gethsemane, when we do not know even what His suffering is for? We do not know how to watch with Him; we are only used to the idea of Jesus watching with us."

The disciples loved Jesus Christ to the limit of their natural capacity, but they did not understand what He was after. In the Garden of Gethsemane they slept for their own sorrow, and at the end of three years of the closest intimacy they "all forsook Him and fled."

"[After Pentecost] they were all filled with the Holy Ghost--the same 'they,' but something wonderful has happened in between, viz., Our Lord's Death and Resurrection and Ascension, and the disciples have been invaded by the Holy Spirit. Our Lord had said--"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you," and this meant that they learned to watch with Him all the rest of their lives." (September 5)

"Ye are they which have continued with Me in My temptations." Luke 22:28.

"It is true that Jesus Christ is with us in our temptations, but are we going with Him in His temptations? ... Watch when God shifts your circumstances, and see whether you are going with Jesus, or siding with the world, the flesh and the devil. We wear His badge, but are we going with Him?

"From that time many of His disciples went back and walked no more with Him.' The temptations of Jesus continued throughout His earthly life, and they will continue throughout the life of the Son of God in us. Are we going with Jesus in the life we are living now?

"We have the idea that we ought to shield ourselves from some of the things God brings round us. Never! God engineers circumstances, and whatever they may be like we have to see that we face them while abiding continually with Him in His temptations. ... The honour of Jesus Christ is at stake in your bodily life. Are you remaining loyal to the Son of God in the things which beset His life in you?

"...The way lies through Gethsemane, through the city gate, outside the camp; the way lies alone, and the way lies until there is no trace of a footstep left, only the voice, 'Follow Me.' (September 19)

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/oswald-chambers/gethsemane/>

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