

That The World May Know: The Path to the Cross – Session 5: The Fifth Cup: Our Way of Hope

Gardens in God's Plan of Redemption

In the Bible, gardens convey significant meaning because they provide an image of God's *shalom*—his perfect harmony and order. A well-watered and cultivated garden is blessed by God, cared for by his people, and provides everything his people need. During biblical times, even a small garden typically provided grapes, olives, possibly figs and pomegranates, and a little grain.

1. What had God provided in the garden for the people he had created?
Genesis 2:8 – 17
Genesis 3:1 – 19

What was his one requirement in the garden?

How did the people he created respond?
What was the result?

2. What keeps God's restoration, his *shalom*, from being fulfilled through his people? What happens to God's "vineyard" and "garden?"
Isaiah 5:1 – 7
Jeremiah 2:21 – 22

3. After the Passover Seder, where did Jesus and His disciples go? What happened there?
John 18:1 – 12

What temptation did Jesus face in the garden on the Mount of Olives?
Matthew 26:36 – 46

In what ways was His temptation similar to what Adam and Eve faced in the Garden of Eden?
Genesis 3:1 - 11

A Garden and a Gethsemane

Although the Bible never mentions a "garden of Gethsemane," the late-night events following the Passover Seder did take place in a "garden" and in "Gethsemane." The location of these events on the Mount of Olives was not just a random dot on the map. As the names of places in the Bible often do, the Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives represented what God was accomplishing that night.

1. Where to the Gospel writers say Jesus and His disciples went after celebrating the Passover Seder in the Upper Room?
Matthew 26:30 – 36
Mark 14:26 – 32
Luke 22:39 – 40
John 18:1 – 4

2. What had Jesus been doing during the days leading up to Passover? How close to the temple was the place they stayed?
Luke 21:37

3. After returning to Gethsemane where He and His disciples were staying, how did Jesus prepare Himself to face his arrest and crucifixion?
Matthew 26:36 – 44
Luke 22:39 – 44

What effect did the crushing weight of sin and suffering that Jesus would soon bear have on Him?
Luke 22:44

In what sense was the gethsemane a metaphor for the suffering Jesus was already beginning to experience?

What Were the Disciples Thinking?

When people today study the "Last Supper," they typically focus on Jesus' teaching, His redemptive sacrifice, His washing the disciples' feet, and Judas' betrayal. Of course, Jesus has taught us a great deal about walking with God through these events. But there is another side of the story that we often overlook: the impact Jesus' last days had on His disciples.

1. What were the disciples feeling in response to the new things Jesus was teaching and the events of their week in Jerusalem?
John 13:21 – 37
John 14:1 - 8
John 16:16 – 24

What questions did they have for Jesus?

What reassuring words did he have for them?

2. How did the crowd of people, Jesus' disciples, and the Pharisees respond when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey less than a week before Passover?
John 12:12 – 19
3. What had Jesus warned the disciples about before they went to Jerusalem?
Matthew 16:21
Matthew 20:17 – 19
4. What was the disciple's response when He told them Judas would betray Him?
Matthew 26:20 - 30

“Keep Watch With Me”

God commanded that the night following the Seder was to be a night of watching. Passover celebrants were to watch and wait in anticipation of God’s deliverance. They would see how he watched over them. God’s command was not only for that first Passover night, there were to remember what happened that night and to keep watching...for all generations!

1. How vigilant was God in watching over the Hebrews—in providing deliverance and protection for his people from the time they left Egypt until they stood on the far bank of the Red Sea?
Exodus 13:20 – 22
Exodus 14:19 – 25

How does God’s example of watching help you to better understand his command for his people to watch for his deliverance?

2. After the Seder, what did Jesus command the three disciples to do?
Mark 14:34 – 50
Luke 22:39-44

In light of Jesus’ role in God’s plan of redemption, what did Jesus want the disciple to be praying about and watching for? Did the disciples “get it?”

“Take This Cup from Me”

After the Passover Seder, Jesus and His disciples went to Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives where they were staying. There, Jesus was overcome by the agonizing horror and weight of what His messianic mission required of Him. But He also was willing to drink the cup if that was His Father’s will. Centuries later, we are amazed by the depth of His suffering. We marvel at His deep commitment to obedience.

1. Jesus knew the night of watching was coming. During the Last Supper, what did Jesus say to His disciples that revealed His awareness that He would have to pour out his blood as a sacrifice on behalf of sinners?
Isaiah 53:10 – 12
Luke 22:36 – 37
2. During the final hours before His arrest, Jesus became overwhelmed by the dreadful reality that He would have to drink the cup of God’s fierce anger against sin. Where did Jesus go and what did He do as He struggled to face the horror of what the next hours would require?
Matthew 26:36 – 39
Mark 14:32 – 36
Luke 22:22 – 24
Hebrews 5:7 – 8

To whom did Jesus turn to find strength for what lay ahead?

What help did he receive?

What did Jesus plead for God to do concerning the “cup” of God’s wrath?

References

Genesis 2	Genesis 3
Exodus 6	Exodus 11
Exodus 12	Exodus 13
Exodus 14	Deuteronomy 8
Psalms 16	Psalms 22
Psalms 23	Psalms 69
Psalms 75	Psalms 79
Psalms 115	Psalms 116
Psalms 118	Psalms 121
Isaiah 5	Isaiah 40
Isaiah 51	Isaiah 53
Isaiah 58	Jeremiah 2
Jeremiah 25	Jeremiah 31
Ezekiel 7	Hosea 5
Micah 4	Micah 5
Nahum 1	Zephaniah 3
Matthew 4	Matthew 11
Matthew 14	Matthew 16
Matthew 20	Matthew 21
Matthew 26	Matthew 27
Mark 1	Mark 14
Mark 15	Luke 2
Luke 21	Luke 22
Luke 23	John 1
John 3	John 6
John 9	John 10
John 12	John 13
John 14	John 15
John 16	John 18
John 19	Romans 5
Romans 6	1 Corinthians 11
1 Corinthians 15	Hebrews 2
Hebrews 4	Hebrews 5
1 Peter 2	Revelation 2
Revelation 14	Revelation 16
Revelation 22	