

Wake Up Call

Palm Sunday: Triumphal Entry

didn't understand the Cross (death) came before the Kingdom (promise)

Principle - Mt 16:24-25 (nature Jn 12:24)

(Heb 10:35-36) ³⁵Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

³⁶For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: (context: suffering, reproach, tribulation)

Prayer in the Garden (place of intimacy, partnership)

(Mt 26:36-46) ³⁶Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." ³⁷And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

³⁹He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." ⁴⁰Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴²Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." ⁴³And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵Then He came to His 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. ⁴⁶"Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

Prayer (remedy for distress) – Invitation to Partnership Intimacy

He embraces death (price) before the promise (Heb 12:1-2)

more important to do His will than to live, or have my desire

Watching vs Sleeping – strengthening Spirit or flesh (Gal 5:16-17)

He is strengthened by Angels (Lk 22:43)

prayer is where we get strength to endure the process until the promise

He will let us sleep (choice)

He will give us our desires, but we bear the consequences (Balaam, King Saul)

Ps 78:27-31 (Num 11 – promise not worth sacrifice)

Ps 81:11-16, Ps 106:13-15 (flesh vs spirit), Rom 1

Critical Events will come upon us, ready or not

(Ep 5:14-17) ¹⁴Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” ¹⁵See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, ¹⁶redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Without Partnership Intimacy (Prayer) we will not understand life
be careful (Wisdom)
redeem time (Strength through Prayer)
know His will (Vision/promise)

context: Command to Love Others (Rom 13:8-10)

(Ro 13:11-14) ¹¹And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

His will is...

to Awaken to Love
not just avoid sin, but learn sacrificial love (prefer others Phil 2:3-5)
by continually placing Christ above our desires

the desires of our flesh will always have appeal

we must have a promise we're pursuing - vision as motivation to embrace sacrifice
joy set before us for which we'll endure a cross

(Ps 27:13-14) ¹³I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. ¹⁴Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the LORD!

We pray because we have vision of what we can be in Him.

It doesn't matter if we don't see immediate answers, we endure
because we understand we're moving toward the promise.

In the Process (death) we are Becoming the Promise.