

Yield to God's Good Will 2020-01-12

John 18:1-11

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. 2 Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. 3 So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

4 Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" 5 They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. 6 When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.

7 So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." 8 Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." 9 This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one."

10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) 11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

We live in fallen, broken world which means trouble/difficult times sure to come.

- Suddenly or slowly like gathering storm (coming but not when).
 - Yielding to God will produce strength and peace in troubled, difficult times.

Time had come for Jesus to be arrested, tried and put to death. *John 18:1, Luke 22:39-47*

- Jesus alone could fathom depths of God's righteousness, man's sin and measure of divine wrath these required.

Inconceivable horror about to happen brought Jesus to threshold of death

- Hematidrosis: In extreme anguish and/or physical pain, sub-cutaneous capillaries dilate and burst mingling blood w/sweat.....copious amounts.
 - *All unknown joys He gives, were bought with agonies unknown*
- Yet with love Jesus gladly went to cross to bear God's wrath, satisfying His righteous anger (propitiation), so believer's peace with God. Hebrews 12:1-2

Father's love not remove cup (no other way), but strengthen Jesus to bear it.

- Jesus exits Garden strengthened/peaceful cause yielding to Father's will.

In contrast Peter's response to this situation is not according to God's will but direct opposition to it....again! *John 18:10-11, Matthew 26:52-54, Luke 22:49-51*

- Jesus not need defend 72,000 angels: 1 crush 185,000/night. 2 Kings 19:35
 - 200-600 soldiers unable to seize Jesus if God not decree.
- Last miracle before Jesus' death He perfectly modeled love for enemies and undid disastrous effects of a believer's reckless actions.
 - Peter did not know Father's will so reacted to trouble in the flesh with fear not respond to it in spirit with faith.

Jesus knew Father's will because He knew the Word (fulfill script), He prayed and then waited for Father's perfect timing.

- Peter misunderstood scripture and reacted quickly in flesh.
 - Understand God's will by knowing Word and waiting prayerfully.
 - Knowing trouble coming, Jesus prayed in advance for disciples/Self while Peter slept.
 - Pray for self/others involved in trouble/difficult time

Even if regularly read Word and fellowship with Jesus in prayer there will be times you choose your will/flesh over God's will/spirit resulting in hurting others and self.

- Sometimes blatant "flesh"....parent in anger,
 - other times like Peter cloaked in self-righteousness (legalism).
- Thank God for grace....Jesus can fix messes we make and use for His glory.

It's God's perfect, loving, sovereign plan that troubled/difficult times will surely come so divine deliverance not coming. James 1:2-4, John 16:33, Romans 12:12, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Philippians 4:13

- Trust that Father knows how much we can take and that He will enable us to bear the cup He gives us.
 - Yielding to God's will produces strength and peace in troubled and difficult times.
 - God is glorified as we walk by spirit in faith not by flesh in fear.