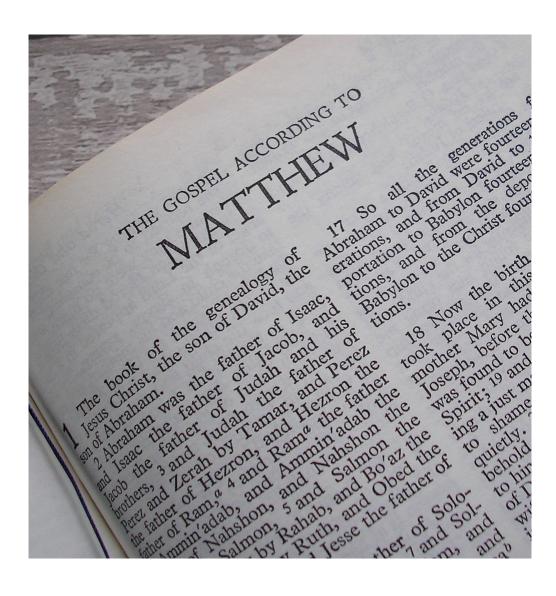
# Let's Worship God

3rd-8th October 2022 Matthew



# Monday - Matthew 26:26-35 - The Lord's Supper

Jesus does not mean that the bread and wine He gives to His disciples is really and literally His body and blood. When Jesus says, "I am the door," or "I am the vine," He is not referring to Himself as a literal door or a literal vine - He is using symbolic language just like He is using here.

The Lord's Supper is not a sacrifice. There is no offering up of anything but our prayers, praises, and thanksgivings. From the day that Jesus dies there is no more need of sacrifices for sin. Priests, altars, and sacrifices, all cease to be necessary, when the Lamb of God offers up Himself. Their office come to an end. Their work is done.

The Lord's Supper has no power to help those who come to it, if they do not come to it with faith. The mere act of eating the bread and drinking the wine is useless, unless it is done with a right heart. It is for the living soul, not for the dead--for the converted, not for the unconverted.

The Lord's Supper is ordained for a continual remembrance of the sacrifice of Christ's death, until He comes again. The benefits it gives, are spiritual, not physical. Its effects must be looked for in our inward man. It is intended to remind us, by the visible, tangible bread and wine, that the offering of Christ's body and blood for us on the cross, is the only atonement for sin, and the life of a believer's soul. It is meant to help our poor weak faith to closer fellowship with our crucified Saviour. By receiving it we publicly declare our sense of guilt, and need of a Saviour--our trust in Jesus, and our love to Him--our desire to live upon Him, and our hope to live with Him. Using it in this spirit, we shall find our repentance deepened, our faith increased, our hope brightened, and our love enlarged--our besetting sins weakened, and our graces strengthened. It will draw us nearer to Christ.

# Questions

- 1. Can the Lord's Supper save you?
- 2. What is its purpose?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for the gift of the Lord's Supper.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 46 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

#### Tuesday - Matthew 26:36-46 - Watch and Pray

Prayer is the best practical remedy that we can use in time of trouble. We see that Christ Himself prays, when His soul is sorrowful. All true Christians ought to do the same. Trouble is a cup that all must drink in this world of sin. We cannot avoid it. But what is the first thing to be done in time of trouble? We must pray. The first person we must turn to for help, must be our God. We must tell all our sorrow to our Father in heaven. We must believe confidently that nothing is too trivial or minute to be laid before Him, so long as we do it with entire submission to His will. It is the mark of faith to keep nothing back from our best Friend. So doing, we may be sure we shall have an answer. "If it be possible," and the thing we ask is for God's glory, it shall be done. The thorn in the flesh shall either be removed, or grace to endure it will be given to us, as it was to Paul.

Submission of our will to the will of God should be one of our chief aims in this world. The words of our Lord are a beautiful example of the spirit that we should follow after in this matter. Our Lord Himself does not always rejoice; but He can always say, "may Your will be done."

There is a double nature in all believers. Converted, renewed, sanctified as they are, they still carry about with them a mass of indwelling sin. Jesus teaches us that the very fact that we are weak, should stir us up continually to "watch and pray." Let us live like men on enemy's ground, and be always on our guard. We cannot walk too carefully. We cannot be too jealous over our souls. The world is very ensnaring. The devil is very busy. Let our Lord's words ring in our ears daily like a trumpet. Our spirits may sometimes be very willing. But our flesh is always very weak. Then let us always watch and always pray.

#### Questions

- 1. What does Jesus do when He is troubled?
- 2. What should we do since we are weak?

## **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks that God hears the prayers of His children.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# Memory Verse

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 47 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

# Wednesday - Matthew 26:47-56 - Jesus is Willing

We see in these verses the cup of our Lord Jesus Christ's sufferings beginning to be filled. He is betrayed by one of His disciples, forsaken by the rest, and taken prisoner by His deadly enemies. Never may we forget, as we read this part of the Bible, that our sins are the cause of these sorrows!

Our Lord submits to be made a prisoner of His own free will. He is not taken captive because He can't escape. It would be easy for Him to scatter His enemies to the winds. But He comes on purpose to fulfil the types and promises of Old Testament Scriptures, and by fulfiling them to provide salvation for the world. He comes intentionally to be the true Lamb of God, the Passover Lamb. He comes to be the Scapegoat on whom the iniquities of the people are to be laid. His heart is set on accomplishing this great work. He is taken, tried, condemned, and crucified entirely of His own free will. There is much encouragement in this. The willing sufferer is a willing Saviour. The almighty Son of God, who allows men to bind Him and lead Him away captive, when He might prevent them with a word, must surely be full of readiness to save the souls that flee to Him.

The disciples forget their willingness to die with their Master. They forget everything but the danger that stares them in the face, and they flee. How many professing Christians have done the same? How many, under the influence of excited feelings, have promised that they would never be ashamed of Christ! They have come away from the sermon full of zeal and love. And yet in a few days these feelings have cooled down and passed away. A trial has come and they have fallen before it. They have forsaken Christ. There is nothing so bad that the best of us may not do it, unless he watches, prays, and is held up by the grace of God.

#### Questions

- 1. How do we know that Jesus is willing to die?
- 2. How do the disciples react to Jesus being taken prisoner?

## **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks that Christ was willing to die on the cross.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 48 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

#### Thursday - Matthew 26:57-68 - Before the Priests

The chief priests are the principal agents in bringing about our Lord's death. It is not so much the Jewish people, we must remember, who push forward this wicked deed, as Caiaphas and his companions, the chief priests. The Jewish priests can trace their ancestry to Aaron. They have special responsibilities. And yet these very men are the murderers of Christ!

Our Lord fully declares to the Jewish council His own Messiahship, and His future coming in glory. The unconverted Jew can never tell us that his forefathers were left in ignorance that Jesus was the Messiah. Our Lord's answer to the high priest is a sufficient reply. He tells the council plainly that He is "the Christ, the Son of God." It is a striking fact that almost the last word spoken by our Lord to the Jews, is a warning prediction that they will yet see Him in glory.

Falsehood and ridicule are old and favourite weapons of the devil. All through our Lord's earthly ministry we see these weapons continually employed against Him. The closing scene of His life is no different. Satan stirs up his enemies to add insult to injury. Let it never surprise us, if we have to endure mockery, and ridicule, and lies, because we belong to Christ. The disciple is not greater than His Master, nor the servant than His Lord. If lies and insults are heaped upon our Saviour, we need not wonder if the same weapons are constantly used against His people. It is one of Satan's great devices to blacken the characters of godly men, and bring them into contempt. If we are ever called upon to suffer in this way, let us bear it patiently. We drink the same cup that was drunk by our beloved Lord. But there is one great difference. At the worst, we only drink a few bitter drops. He drank the cup to the very dregs.

#### Questions

- 1. What does Jesus tell the Jewish council?
- 2. How is Jesus treated after He is declared guilty?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 49 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

#### Friday - Matthew 26:69-75 - Denial

There is a series of steps by which Peter is led to deny his Lord. The first step to Peter's fall is self-confidence. He says, "Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will." The second step is laziness. His Master tells him to watch and pray. Instead of doing so, he sleeps. The third step is cowardly compromising. Instead of keeping close to his Master, he first forsakes Him, and then "followed Him afar off." The last step is needlessly venturing into evil company. He goes into the priest's palace, and sits with the servants, like one of themselves. And then comes the final fall, the cursing, the swearing, and the three-fold denial. It is the fruit of seeds which he himself has sown. Men fall in private, long before they fall in public. The tree falls with a great crash, but the secret decay which accounts for it, is often not discovered until it is down on the ground.

We see in Peter's tears, the close connection between unhappiness and departure from God. A heavy heart, an uneasy conscience, and an abundant crop of doubts, will always be the consequence of backsliding and inconsistency. If we love inward peace, we must walk closely with God. We see in Peter's bitter tears, the grand mark of difference between the hypocrite and the true believer. When the hypocrite is overtaken by sin, he generally falls to rise no more. When the child of God is overtaken, he rises again by true repentance, and by the grace of God changes his life. Do we profess to have a hope in Christ? Let us remember the weakness of a believer, and the steps that lead to a fall. Have we backslidden, and left our first love? Let us remember that the Saviour of Peter still lives. There is mercy for us as well as for him. But we must repent, and seek that mercy, if we would find it. Let us turn unto God, and He will turn to us.

#### Questions

- 1. What were the steps to Peter's denial?
- 2. Why was Peter unhappy?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that you would walk closely with God.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 50 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

#### Saturday - Matthew 27:1-10 - Judas Iscariot

If there was any living witness who could give evidence against our Lord Jesus Christ, Judas Iscariot was the man. A chosen apostle of Jesus, a constant companion in all His journeyings, a hearer of all His teaching, both in public and private--he must have known if our Lord had done any wrong, either in word or deed. Why then doesn't Judas Iscariot come forward? Because his conscience won't let him. Wicked as he is, he knows well that his Master is holy, harmless, innocent, blameless, and true. The absence of Judas Iscariot at our Lord's trial, is one among many proofs that the Lamb of God is without blemish--a sinless man.

We are told plainly that Judas is filled with remorse and takes the thirty pieces of silver back to the leading priests. We are even told that he goes to the priests, and says, "I have sinned." And yet it is clear that he does not repent unto salvation. It is possible for a man to feel guilty and upset and yet, for all this, not repent with his heart. Judas never once seeks forgiveness either from Christ or from the Father.

Judas' money brings him no pleasure, even when he has it. Sin is, in truth, the hardest of all masters. In its service there is plenty of promises, but its wages are sorrow, remorse, self-accusation, and too often death. Let us see in Judas, to what a miserable end a man may come, if he has great privileges, and does not use them rightly. A disciple of Christ, a preacher of the Gospel, a companion of Peter and John, commits suicide, and rushes into God's presence unprepared and unforgiven. Are we ever tempted to rest on our knowledge? Do we cling to the world, and give money a prominent place in our minds? Are we trifling with any one sin, and flattering ourselves we will repent later? Remember Judas and beware.

#### Questions

- 1. Why did Judas not testify against Jesus?
- 2. Does Judas' money bring him happiness?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters

# **Memory Verse**

"And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin," Matthew 6:28

Praise: Psalm 51 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

# The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!

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