Jesus In Gethsemane, The Prayer And The Betrayal

Matthew 26:36-56

Intro:

A. **The way to the cross was interrupted by prophesied events.**
   1. The meaning of Passover.
   2. The betrayal of Jesus.
   3. His trial and sentence to death.

B. **In these verses we see two primary events.**
   1. His prayers in the garden of Gethsemane.
   2. His betrayal by Judas.

I. Jesus In Gethsemane, His Prayer.

A. **Jesus went to pray.**
   1. He was with His disciples. **V.36**
   2. He chose three Apostles to go with Him. **V.37**
   3. Matthew 4:21, Peter, James, and John.

B. **Jesus and His sorrow.**
   1. **sorrowful = λυπέω** = “to be grieved,” “to be sad.” **V.37**
   2. **very heavy = αὐθημόνω** = “to be distressed,” It implies a restless, distracted shrinking from some trouble or thought which nevertheless cannot be avoided.
   3. **exceeding sorrowful = παριλυπός** = “to be surrounded by grief and distress.” **V.38**

C. **The prayer of Jesus, His first.**
   1. He fell on His face. **V.39**
   2. **possible = δύνατός** = passive “capable of being done”
   3. **pass = παρερχόμαι** = “pass along by”
   4. **will = θέλω** = to wish, to desire
   5. “...let this cup pass from me...”

D. **The weakness of the three.**
   1. They were found asleep. **V.40**
   2. Jesus expected an effort, one hour.
   3. **temptation = πειρασμός** = “a putting to the test” **V.41**
4. willing = προθυμος = “having a passionate mind,” “predisposed,” “enthusiastic heart”
5. weak = ασθενης = “feeble,” “wanting power”

E. The second prayer of Jesus.
1. “...if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it...” v.42
2. “...thy will be done.”
3. His companions were found sleeping. v.43
4. “...for their eyes were heavy...”

F. Jesus prayed a third time.
1. “...saying the same words...” v.44
2. “Sleep on now, and take your rest.”
3. rest = αναπαυω = “to rest one’s self”, here middle, the idea of previous toil or suffering is included.

G. His final commitment.
1. “...sleep on...the hour is at hand...” v.45
2. “Rise, let us be going, ...he is at hand...” v.46

II. Jesus In Gethsemane, His Betrayal.

A. Judas came to Jesus. v.47
1. He came with a great multitude.
2. He came with a great number of weapons.
3. He came with authority.
4. He came with a kiss. Vs.48-49
5. He came with a foolish request! Hold Him fast!

B. Jesus and Judas.
1. He called Judas “friend”. v.50
2. friend = ετυμος = “companion,” “associate”

C. Peter and Judas.
1. John 18:10
2. Peter defended Jesus. v.51
3. Carnal weapons are ineffective in spiritual warfare. v.52 2 Corinthians 10:4 – “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but might through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”
4. God had not caused Jesus to be helpless. v.53