

THE MIRACLE IN THE GARDEN

Text: Luke 22:39–53

A Servant's Severed Ear is Healed

Introduction:

1. What if you knew your Future—Would You Live Differently Today?

a. If You Knew For Certain You Would Spend Eternity in Heaven...

—Would it Affect How You Live Today?

b. Or, If You Knew For Certain You Would Spend Eternity in Hell...

—Would it Affect How You Live Today?

2. As We Consider this Final Miracle in the Garden of Gethsemane...

a. I Think if Malchus, if Peter and if Judas New their Future...

—They Would've Lived Differently.

b. Jesus Knew The Future—Which is Why He Was in Agony in Prayer

I. THE MIRACLE IN THE GARDEN

A. THE PRAYER (v. 39-42)

1. Jesus Prayed 3x in the Garden, for the cup to pass

a) He Knelt Down and Prayed: Father if it is your will, let this cup pass

b) But Jesus Knew the Plan from Before the World Began (**John 12:27**)

2. What is This Cup? What Does it Represent?

a) Was it the Cup of Suffering? (all the suffering leading to the cross?)

b) Was it the Cup of Crucifixion? (Suffering AND Death on Cross?)

c) Was it the Cup of Wrath? God's Judgement of Sin that Jesus Would Pay for us?

(1) I Have Always Took it to Mean a Cup of Suffering, including Death...

(2) But Others Have Said, Jesus was not asking to avoid Death on Cross

But of the Terrible Suffering Leading to the Cross, suffering so great

He could possibly even die before being nailed to the cross

(3) Others Have Said, it wasn't a Cup of Suffering or Death—but a cup of Wrath

The Wrath and Judgement of God on the sins of the world taken all on Jesus at the Cross

(4) Spurgeon said: "All hell was distilled into that cup, of which our God and Savior Jesus Christ was made to drink."

d) Or Maybe the Cup Represented All of it Combined?

(We Don't Know—So That's another Study for another time)

3. We Do Know The Hour of Darkness Had Come...

a) a chain of events, a series of trials, beatings, whippings, scourging

b) and finally the most painful death ever invented by twisted minds—crucifixion.

4. 'Nevertheless, Not My Will, but Yours be done.'

a) This Prayer is a Model for Our Prayers

b) Prayer isn't Just About Our Will—But Learning to Submit Our Will to His

B. THE ANGEL (v. 43)

1. While Praying Intensely and Experiencing the Anxiety of impending death —God Sent an Angel to Strengthen Jesus

- a) The Disciples Should've Been Encouraging Jesus—but they were asleep
- b) So What the Disciples Could Not Do—because they were weak...
- c) God Supplied—by sending an Angel to strengthen Jesus

2. Angels are created spiritual beings...

How Would an Angel Have Strengthened Jesus?

- a) Angels Are Servants of the Lord... and Man was Made a little lower than the angels
- b) But the Word Became Flesh—Jesus came in human form and allowed an angel to strengthen Him in His Agony (Hebrews 2:9)

3. Sometimes the greatest encouragement is knowing that we are not alone and We Are Called to Encourage One Another...

- a) That After the Suffering—there is Joy in Fulfilling God's Will
- b) That there is Joy in the entire Angelic Army when one soul is saved
- c) That there is Hope for those who believe and love God
- d) That there is a reward for surrendering to the Father's will

C. THE AGONY (v. 44-46)

1. It is so hard to imagine the intensity of what Jesus is suffering...

Because Jesus is not just human but God the Son in the Flesh

- a) But Luke captures a picture of it...
- b) His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.
- c) He is Experiencing Intensely Acute Anxiety—for you and for me

Mortal men are incapable of knowing fully the nature and extent of the Saviour's awful agony; but it was there in Gethsemane that our Lord made the final, irrevocable decision to bear our sins on the tree. (Coffman)

"All I can say is that as I ponder it, through the darkened window there is a mystic light shining, showing me the terrors of the cross more clearly than I see them even when I come to Calvary." (Morgan)

2. He Rises From Prayer—strengthened and surrendered to the Will of God

- a) And After this Prayer—When Jesus Surrendered His Will to the Father—
- b) He Went From Anxiety to Peace—He is the Calm in the Storm all the way to Cross

3. We Too Will Find Strength and Peace

From Praying—and Surrendering to the Will of God

- a) As Jesus Told the Disciples Sleeping (v.46)
"Why do you sleep? Rise and Pray lest you enter into temptation"

D. THE BETRAYAL (v. 47-48)

1. What Happened to Judas?

- a) How can Someone Spend Three Years with Jesus and then Betray Him?
- b) Betrayed for 30 pieces of silver! Betrayed by a Kiss!

2. Some People Think They Know Better than God—Judas is one of them

a) But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

3. Judas is leading a multitude with swords and torches

a) and Right Next to Judas is Malchus, the Servant of the High Priest

E. THE COMPASSION (v. 49-51)

1. One of the Disciples Tries to Take the Head off of Servant of High Priest, but he only got the ear—

a) Only John Tells Us Who it Was (**Jn 18:10-11**)

b) 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. So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?”

2. Only Luke Tells us What Jesus Did for this Servant Malchus (Lk 22:51)

a) But Jesus answered and said, “Permit even this.” And He touched his ear and healed him.

F. THE SUBMISSION (v. 52-53)

1. Jesus Submitted His Will to the Will of the Father...to save us from our sins And this is proven by what Jesus says: —> (**Mt. 26:51-54**)

2. It's Astonishing to think—Jesus had the Divine Authority and Power to call down 12 legions of angels. (72,000 Angels)

3. As Jesus Taught: “**for whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it**” (**Mt 16:25**).

a) Many Jews Wanted to Soak their Swords in Roman Blood...and soon they Did

b) They Took Up Swords against the Roman Government in A.D. 70

c) They Thought God was on their side—like Peter thought...

d) But the City of Jerusalem and everyone in it

was Completely & Catastrophically Destroyed.

G. THE PLAN (**Matthew 26:55–56**)

1. Jesus sat daily in the Temple teaching the words of life

2. But they waited till cover of darkness to take Him to death

3. But it was all done so the scriptures would be fulfilled

Jesus became the lamb of God slain for the sins of the world

II. THE LESSONS FROM THE MIRACLE IN THE GARDEN

A. EVEN A MIRACLE WILL NOT CHANGE A HARD HEART

1. Malchus was the Servant of the High Priest—his right-hand man

a) He is leading this Group of Armed Men to Arrest Jesus

b) Which is Why Peter Swings At Malchus First!

c) He Seems to be in charge of the Temple Soldiers and Security Guard

2. And When you look at all three accounts it's clear this was Jesus final healing touch before His Hands were Bound and He was led away

- a) He Reached Out and Healed Malchus' Severed Ear
- b) Jesus was Arrested Immediately after healing Malchus
- c) At this Point Everything is Happening so fast and I wonder What Malchus is Doing
- d) Is He standing in Shock? or is He Involved in Arresting Jesus?
- e) His Reaction is Not Recorded—But there is no mention that it changed His heart

3. Even a Miracle Will Not Change a Hard Heart...

- a) The Israelites Witnessed 10 Miracles—the 10 Plagues

But it wasn't Long Before they were Worshipping a Golden Calf, then Complaining and then Wanting to Go back to Slavery!
- b) And Let's Not Forget Judas! How Many Miracles Did Judas See Jesus Preform?
- c) Even the Miracles of Jesus Did Not Change Judas' Heart!

B. THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST IS NOT OF THIS WORLD

1. What We Would Think of as the Greatest Miracle is the Miracle Jesus

Chose NOT To Preform...

- a) This Rag-tag group of 12 Disciples had Two Swords—

against an Armed Contingent of Temple Guard...
- b) But Jesus Told Peter to Put His Sword in it's Place—

All Who Live By the Sword will Die By the Sword...

2. Do You Not Know That I Can Now Call Down 12 Legions of Angels?

- a) Don't You Think the Angels Were on Defcon 5—

Ready to Defend Jesus in a Split-Second!
- b) Don't You Think They Wanted to Defend their LORD and KING!

3. When Pilate asked Jesus if He was a King—Jesus said He Was a King...

But My Kingdom is not of this world—or else my servants would fight (Jn 18:36)

- a) As Mere Mortals We Think of Kingdoms of Physical Power Not Spiritual Power
- b) John Wanted to Call Fire From Heaven to Destroy an Entire City
- c) Peter Wanted to Take Up Arms Against the High Priest

4. We Do Not War Against Flesh and Blood—our war is in the Spiritual Realm

- a) **(Ephesians 6:12 ESV)** This is the Realm of Cosmic Powers of Darkness, Spiritual Forces of Evil, Demonic Forces of Satan

- b) In This Realm Your Guns Can't Save You...
- c) Your Government Can't Save You... Your Politicians Can't Save You
- d) Even YOU Can't Save You

C. CHRIST SAVES MANKIND, NOT BY SPILLING THIER BLOOD...

BUT BY SHEDDING HIS OWN BLOOD

1. This is How We Have Victory Over the Powers of Darkness
2. This is How We Have Victory Even on Earth Behind the Enemy Lines
3. This is How We Have Victory Over the Spiritual Forces of Satan
4. Jesus Gave Us Victory By His Blood—the ONLY Thing That Can Save You
5. **(Hebrews 2:14–15)**

D. JESUS LAST ACT BEFORE ARREST WAS TO HEAL A MAN

HIS LAST ACT BEFORE DEATH WAS TO SAVE A MAN

HAS LAST ACT OF DEATH WAS TO SAVE YOU

1. What Would it have Profited Malchus if He Gained the Whole World...
—but Lost His Own Soul?
2. And What Would it Profit You to gain the whole world...
—but loose your own soul?
3. What Would You Give in Exchange For Your Soul?
4. Jesus Gave His Blood to Redeem You to Himself (1 Peter 1:18–21 NIV)

CONCLUSION:

1. Maybe one of the Greatest Miracles of All....
was the Miracle Jesus Chose Not to Preform
 - a) He Could've Called Down an Entire Angelic Army
 - b) But He Chose to Die For You...
 - c) Because He Knew the Future He Wanted to Offer You
2. His Blood was Offered to Pay Your Debt in Full
And This is the Greatest Miracle of All
 - a) YOU CAN'T CHANGE YOUR PAST!
 - b) But JESUS OFFERS YOU A NEW FUTURE!
 - c) How sad that even that Miracle of Jesus Dying on Cross...
Is Not Enough to Change a Hard Heart
3. It has been said, “There Are Two Great Days in a Person’s Life:
The Day We Are Born, and the Day We Discover Why.”
4. YOU ARE CREATED FOR A BEAUTIFUL LIFE WITH GOD!
(Ephesians 1:4-5 > SLIDE)

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (Jn 14:1-2)