EASTER - BEFORE AND AFTER

TEXT: Matthew Chapters 26 – 28.

1) THE LAST SUPPER
What it means. I Cor. 11:23-34.

The bread represents Jesus body.
He is the “bread” of life.
(John 6:35; 48; 51)

The cup represents Jesus blood.
(I Peter 1: 18 & 19; Matt.26:28;
Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14)

2) THE GARDEN
Matthew 26: 36-46.
“Sit here and watch with me.” (#38)

Notice verse #39 – “...nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.”

The sleeping disciples. (#40)

Our flesh is so weak. Our spirit is willing but our flesh gets in the way and gives reasons for us not to follow Jesus like we should. Sometimes, we need to pray more than sleep. Sacrifices are good for our flesh. (I Cor. 15:31 – “I die daily.”)

Satan will do everything he can to stop us or distract us from praying. If you’re too busy to pray, you’re too busy! (I Thess. 5:17) Learn to pray through out
the day. There should be a time set aside each day to pray alone with God. (Matt. 6:6) Verse #44 tells us that Jesus prayed 3 times the similar phrase, “not My will, but thine be done.” Jesus knew He was to face the crucifixion.

**NOTE:** HIS SURRENDERED HEART TO THE FATHER’S WILL HELPED HIM TO BE ABLE TO FACE THE CROSS.

How about YOU? When you and I stay surrendered (daily) to the Father’s perfect will, we too, will be able to face the “crosses” in our lives. (Matt. 16:24 & 26) (Mark 10:21; 29 & 30) (Matt. 19:29) (Luke 18:29 & 30)

3) THE BETRAYAL
(Matt. 26:47)

**NOTE:** Matt. 26:55 & 56. “...scriptures of the prophets must be fulfilled.”
“...they ALL forsook Him and fled.”

Peter followed “afar off”. (Matt. 26:58)
Are you a “far off” follower of Jesus?

**SEE:** Matthew 26: 69 – 76

Peter gave in and lied, denying Jesus, when the going (pressures) got tough.
How do you react under pressure? Do you *complain and draw away from God,* or *closer to Him?*

4) THE CROSS
(Matt. 27:24 – 56)


5) THE RESURRECTION

(I Cor. 15: 43 – 58)

6) THE COMMISSION & ASCENSION

(Matt. 28:18 – 20) (Mark 16: 15 – 20)
(Act 1: 1 – 11)

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