

THE ORDEAL IN GETHSEMANE
(Matthew 26:36-46)

- I. SETTING of the Ordeal (Matt. 26:36; cf. 20:17 – 26:35)
 - A. He PRESENTED Himself in Jerusalem to DIE (20:17-19; 21:1-11)
 - B. He PROVOKED Israel’s leaders DELIBERATELY
 - 1. He CLEANSED the TEMPLE (21:12-17)
 - 2. He CHALLENGED their TEACHING (22:1 - 23:26)
 - 3. He CONFRONTED their TREACHERY (21:33-46)
 - C. He PREPARED His disciples for His DEPARTURE (24:3 – 26:35)
 - 1. He outlined FUTURE events preceding His RETURN (24:3 – 25:46)
 - 2. He ACCEPTED His anointing by Mary (26:6-13)
 - 3. He instituted the Lord’s Supper to commemorate His giving of His BODY and BLOOD (26:17-35)
 - D. He took His DISCIPLES into the garden (26:36)
- II. SEVERITY of the Ordeal (Matt. 26:37-38)
 - A. He asked Peter, James and John to “KEEP WATCH” with Him
 - B. Jesus’ soul was OPPRESSED “to the point of DEATH”

III. SUPPLICATION within the Ordeal (Matt. 26:39-44)

A. He spent THREE sessions in PRAYER (26:39, 42, 44)

1. He addressed the Father with RESPECT
2. He affirmed the Father's AUTHORITY
3. He begged the Father to "let THIS cup PASS"
4. He was SUBMISSIVE to the Father's WILL (cf. John 8:29)

B. He REBUKED the disciples for SLEEPING (26:40-41, 45a)

IV. SEQUEL of the Ordeal (Matt. 26:45-46)

A. He announced, "The HOUR is AT HAND"

B. He RECOVERED and went to His BETRAYAL and ARREST

1. The Father ANSWERED His prayer (Heb. 5:7)
2. This was a CONFLICT with SATAN in which God granted immediate VICTORY (John 14:30-31; Luke 22:43)

C. The disciples' FAITH was STRENGTHENED

1. They learned of the Father's ability to ANSWER PRAYER
2. They learned of Christ's ability to SAVE