

The story of the *King*... who came to *serve*.

Part 44

Gethsemane: Looking into the Abyss

Mark 14:32 - 42

# THREE LESSONS

This passage is an example of how culture filters our understanding

# He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply distressed and troubled. v. 33



## "deeply distressed"

- to alarm thoroughly
- to terrify
- to be struck with terror
- to be astounded

He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply distressed and troubled. v. 33



### "troubled"

- strongest of the three Greek words in the NT for depression
- it is to be smothered by unimaginable horror

He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he became deeply distressed and troubled. v. 33

He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." v. 34



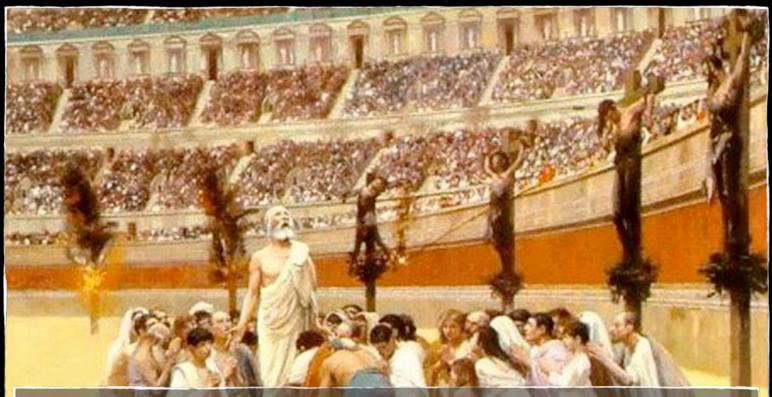


# THREE LESSONS

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This passage helps us come to grips with the wrath of God

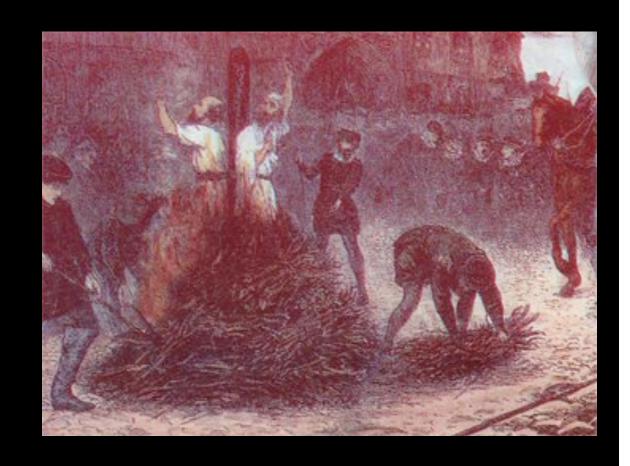
## Polycarp, the Bishop of Smyrna



"The fire you threaten burns but an hour and is quenched after a little . . . You do not know the fire of the coming judgment . . . But why do you delay? Come, do what you will."

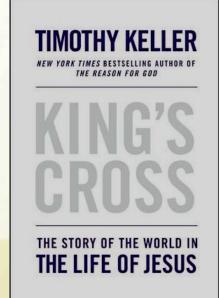
## Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer: Oxford, England, 1555

"Be of good comfort Master Ridley, and play the man: we shall this day light such a candle by God's grace in England, as I trust shall never be put out."



"Didn't he know he was going to die? Yes, but we're not talking about information here. Of course he knew that; he had told the disciples so repeatedly. But now he is beginning to taste what he will experience on

the cross, and it goes far beyond physical torture and death. What is this terrible thing? It's at the very heart of Jesus' prayer here. He says, 'Take this cup from me.'"



(*King's Cross*, p. 167)

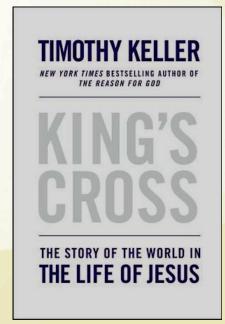
#### Ezekiel 23:32 – 34

- <sup>32</sup> "You will drink from your sister's cup of terror, a cup that is large and deep. It is filled to the brim with scorn and derision.
- <sup>33</sup> Drunkenness and anguish will fill you, for your cup is filled to the brim with distress and desolation . . .
- <sup>34</sup> You will drain that cup of terror to the very bottom . . . and *tear your breast in anguish*.

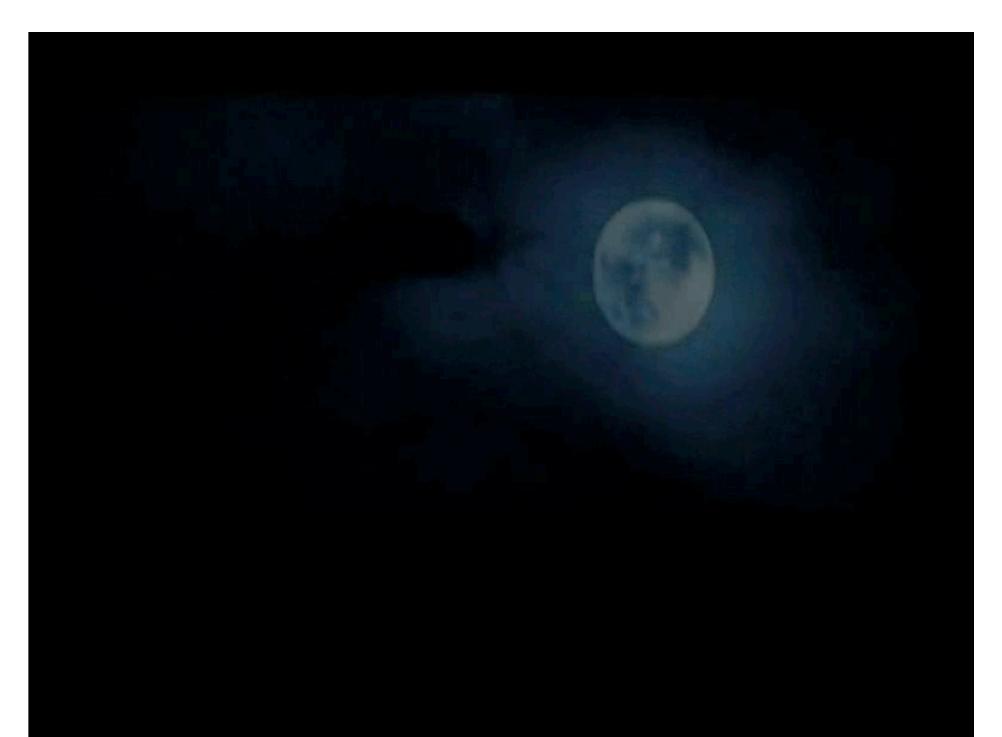
#### Isaiah 51:22

"... cup that made you stagger ... the goblet of my wrath."

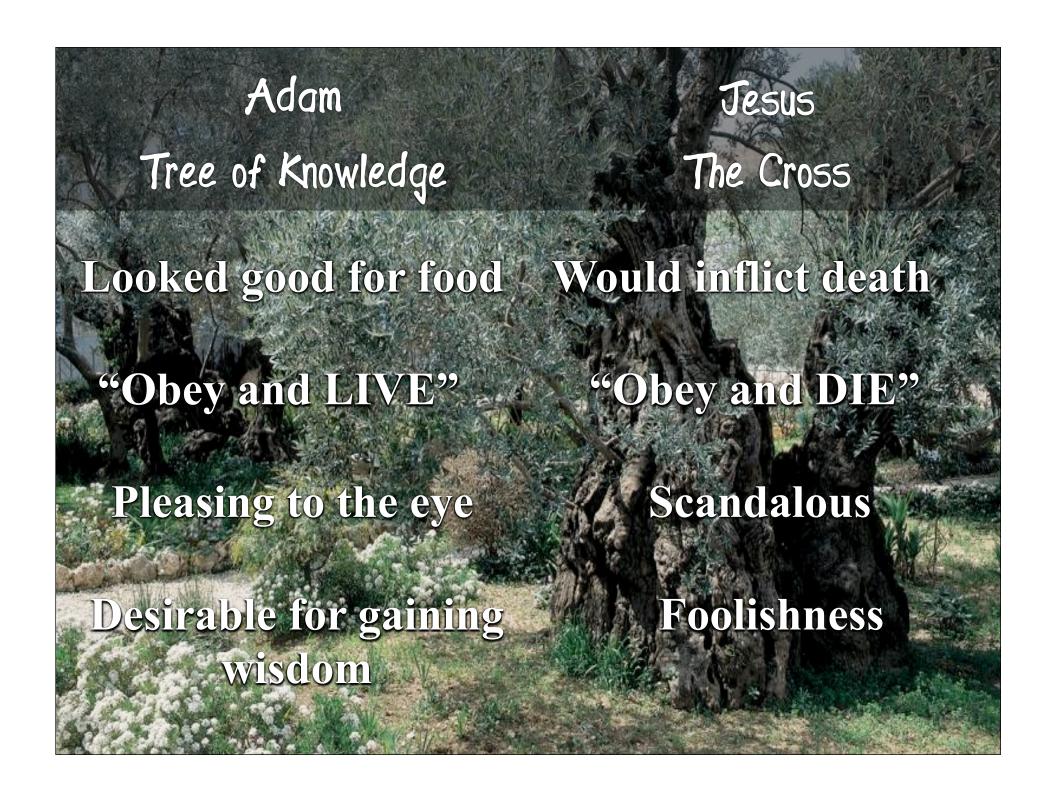
"... all he can see before him is wrath, the abyss, the chasm, the nothingness of the cup."

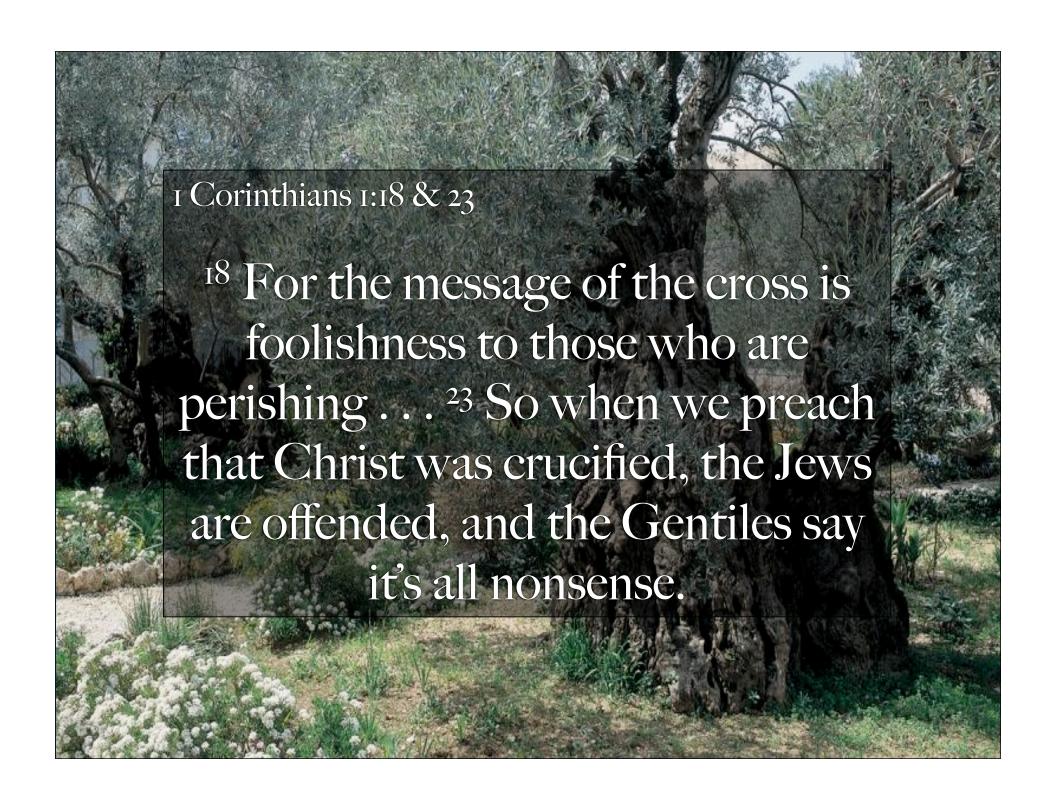


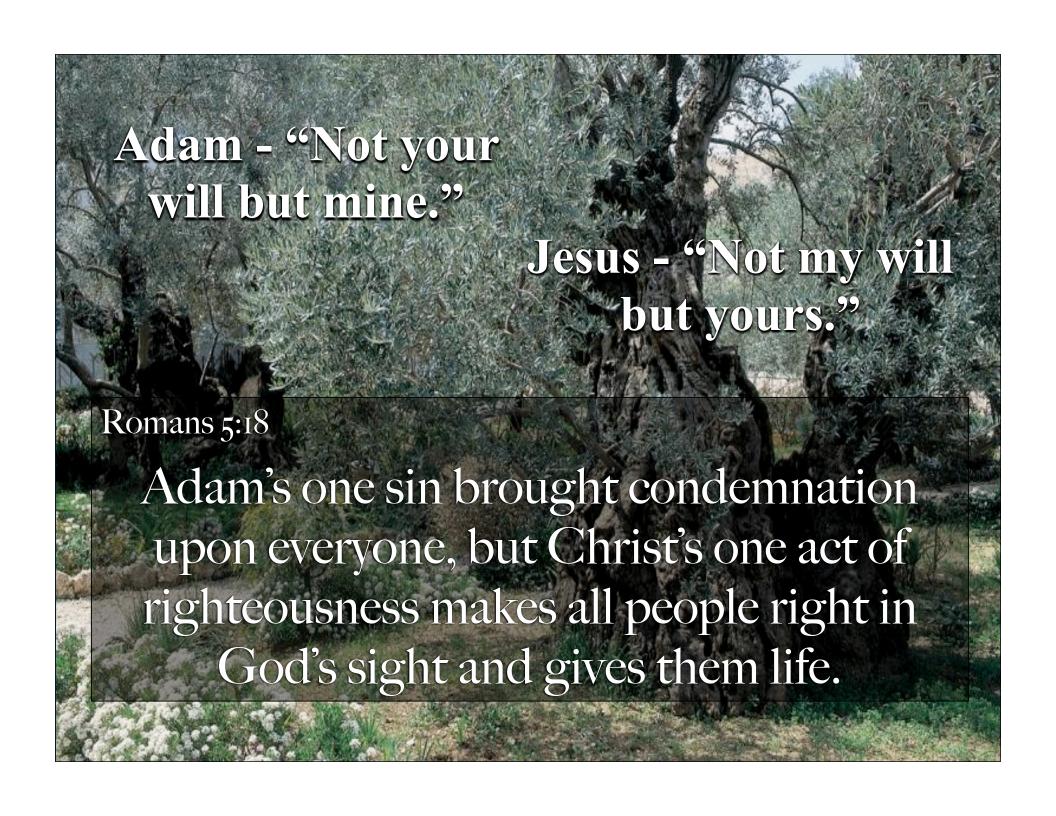
(King's Cross, p. 167)

















Hosea 9:7

The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired man a maniac.

Isaiah 5:20

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.

#### 1 Peter 4:4 & 5

<sup>4</sup> Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild and destructive things they do. So they slander you. <sup>5</sup> But remember that they will have to face God, who will judge everyone, both the living and the dead. (NLT)

Malcolm: "The live wire doesn't feel angry with us, but if we blunder against it we get a shock."

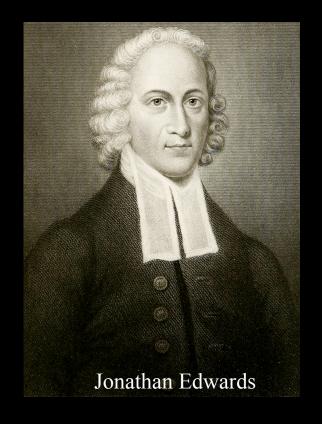
Lewis: "My dear Malcolm: What do you suppose you have gained by substituting the image of a live wire for that of angered majesty? You have shut us up all in despair, for the angry can forgive, but electricity can't . . . Turn God's wrath into mere enlightened disapproval and you turn his love into mere humanitarianism. The 'consuming fire' and the 'perfect beauty' both vanish."



Letters to Malcolm: Chiefly on Prayer



<sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.



God brought him to the mouth of the furnace that he might look into it, and stand and view its raging flames, and see...where he was going and what he was about to suffer...so that he could *voluntarily* enter into it and bear it for us, knowing what it was. So that when he took that cup on the Cross, knowing fully what it was, so was his love to us infinitely more wonderful, and his obedience to God infinitely more perfect."

# THREE LESSONS

This passage is an example of how culture filters our understanding

This passage helps us come to grips with the wrath of God

This passage reminds us that we are all vulnerable to temptation & shows us how to overcome it

<sup>34</sup> "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch *with me*."

Then he returned and found the disciples asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Couldn't you watch with me even one hour? <sup>38</sup> Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak."



Then Jesus left them again and prayed the same prayer as before. When he returned to them again, he found them sleeping, for they couldn't keep their eyes open. And they didn't know what to say.

<sup>41</sup> When he returned to them the third time, he said, "Are you still sleeping? Enough! The time has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup> Up, let's be going. Look, my betrayer is here!"

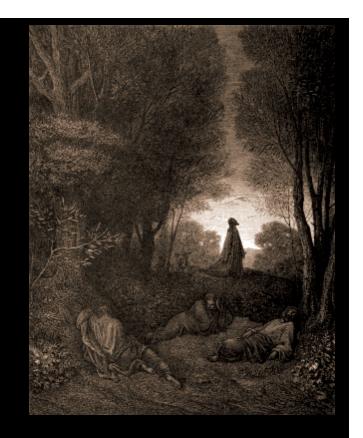
34 "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch *with me*."

Stay alert and vigilant

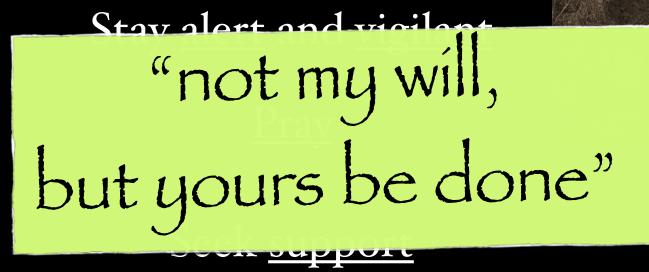
**Pray** 

Seek support

Focus on God's purposes



<sup>34</sup> "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch *with me*."



Focus on God's purposes

