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1-12-2024

CRUCIFYING THE FLESH

It was after the Passover meal. Jesus took the disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane and had Peter, James and John go with him to pray. In Matthew 26:37 we see how sorrowful a time it was for the Lord. It says, ***“Then saith he unto them, ‘My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.’”***

Jesus knew his fate. He spent time with the Father in prayer and knew his destiny. Yet, it was a surrendered will that would bring him to the place of crucifixion. Three times he asked the Father if it was His will to remove the cup from which he would drink. That cup, of course, was the cup of death. Jesus won his battle in the garden when he surrendered his will to the Father’s will.

There are many times in our life’s journey that we will be faced with decisions that are very hard. We become sorrowful over what we know we will go through. This is when we walk in the spirit and not the flesh. We put our mind and our flesh to death, figuratively. We say no to its desires and yes to God’s desires.

The Lord knows how hard this is because he faced it too. Imagine, Jesus, all God, and all man, asking for that cup to be removed. His friend had betrayed him, his closest friends slept. He was alone in making this decision. He even told them in Mark 14:38, ***“Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready (willing), but the flesh is weak.”***

The closer we want to walk with the Lord, the more surrendering will take place. Some will have to give up friends that would hinder you in your intimate relationship with the Lord. Others will find the loneliness and isolation that comes with saying, “thy will, not mine, Lord.” Yet, there is no greater place to be than in that close personal intimate relationship with God.

Crucifying of the flesh must take place to get to that place. Many may desire it, but they are not willing to pay the price. I pray that you will because that is the best choice you can ever make.