

Lesson 56 Matthew 26.40-43 Jesus teaching on reaching

The disciples are asleep

And He came to Peter and said to him, "You were not physically strong enough to watch with me one hour." The LORD has trusted for a concert of prayer to the Father involving the disciples also. But that did not happen. The whole burden fell on Jesus. Our lives as a rule depend wholly on Him for we are next to impotent in prayer. But as the disciples were also to go through this dark night of sorrow they too needed to pray.

Pray that you may not enter temptation

The arrest of Jesus and the aftermath held a series of trials for the disciples. They could easily split up or they could despair of any positive outcome once Christ was buried. It became evident that even before that Peter would lash out in anger with his sword and cut off the High Priest's servant's ear. There is good reason why Jesus should approach Peter on the need to pray.

A Second Prayer

We find our wonderful Saviour in exactly the position we often find ourselves in. He says, "If this cup cannot pass from me unless I drink it, let Your will be done." Here is something reaching further than a prayer-it is a vow. Christ's prayers were always in the nature of vows.

Heavy eyed

Jesus returned after His second prayer and discovered them sleeping once more. Their eyes had become burdensome. They just could not keep them open.



From paper to practice.

Tiredness is natural. On our motorways we have notices, "Tiredness can kill".

What are the spiritual implications of tiredness (a) In connection with prayer? (b) In connection with the control of our tempers?