

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

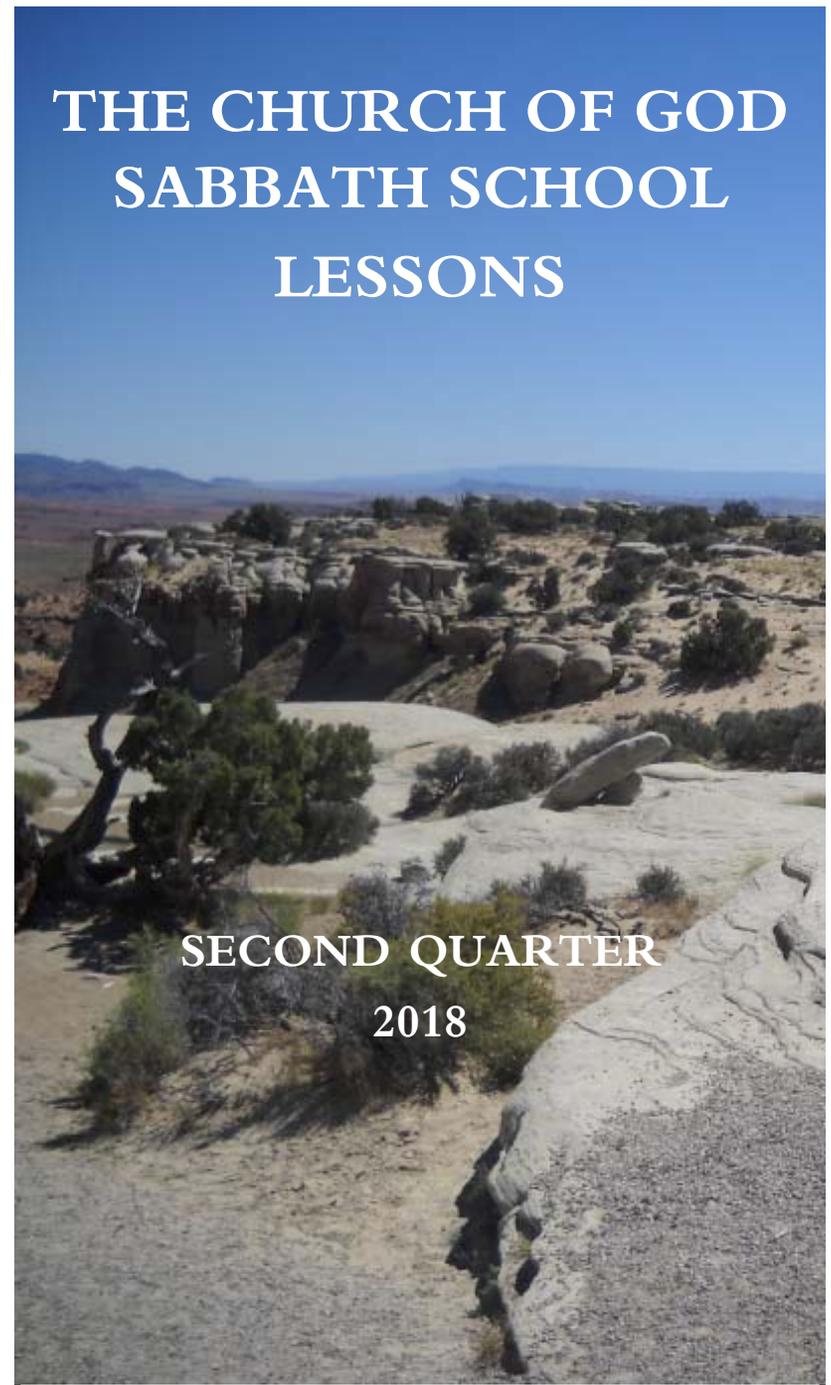
VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.



The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons (USPS No. 560-980) is published quarterly, one month before the beginning of each new quarter: March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1, by the Church of God Publishing House, P O Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328. Periodicals postage will be paid at Salem, WV 26426-0328.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

Your subscription is free. If you wish to contribute an offering, your contribution will be tax deductible.

IN THIS QUARTERLY

The death and resurrection of Jesus is a pivotal event in Scripture. Without His death, we would be lost. If He was not raised, we would have no hope. As the Apostle Paul said, "...we are of all men most miserable" (I Corinthians 15:19).

Thankfully, there is a plan of salvation, and Jesus led the way. As His followers, we will study this important time. We are saddened by His death, but realize it was only temporary. How wonderful it was for the disciples to see Him again. How great it will be for us to "behold Him."

Lesson For Sabbath, April 7, 2018

GIVE UNTO THE LORD THE GLORY DUE HIM

Scripture Reading: Psalm 96.
Golden Text: I Chronicles 16:29.

1. What is said to be due unto the Lord? Psalm 29:2; 96:8.
 2. Why is glory due unto the Lord? Isaiah 42:5; 66:5.
 3. To what is God compared? What is meant by Rock? Fortress? Deliverer? Shield? Horn of Salvation? High Tower? Refuge? Saviour? Have a good discussion. II Samuel 22:2-4; Psalm 18:2,6-9.
 4. Why was David so emphatic and seemingly overjoyed? II Samuel 22:1,6-7.
- NOTE: Whether or not we as individuals have had such experience, we should consider David and others as having fought the battles for us, and opened the way for the Kingdom of Righteousness. In deliverance from sin and fleshly weakness, God becomes to us all these features as mentioned by David.*
5. In giving glory unto the Lord, where should His people be found? Psalm 15:1; 96:8; John 15:10.
 6. Should people go empty handed into the courts of God? I Chronicles 16:27-29; Deuteronomy 12:11-12.
 7. If "courts" or enclosures mean to dwell within God's protection, what offering (besides monetary) should be included? Romans 12:1-2.
 8. Can one sincerely give of his body as a living sacrifice unto God and refrain from using the things of life in support of God's work? I Corinthians 3:9; 9:11,14.
 9. What plan has God offered whereby His people may be laborers with Him? Leviticus 27:28-30; Hebrews 10:14-20.

Lesson For Sabbath, April 14, 2018

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH

Scripture Reading: John 4:1-26.

Golden Text: John 4:23-24.

1. What instruction did Joshua give Israel just before his death? Joshua 24:14-15.
2. What other Scripture of similar instruction was given? Deuteronomy 18:13; Genesis 17:1; Psalm 119:1; II Corinthians 1:12.
3. Did God ever require anything not in harmony with these Scriptures? Micah 6:8; Galatians 5:22-23; Deuteronomy 10:12-13. Why?
4. How did Jesus express it? John 4:23-24; Acts 17:28-29.
5. Lest we forget God, what has He given to cause us to remember? Exodus 20:8; I Corinthians 11:23-25.
6. How should we remember the Lord's Supper? Luke 22:19-20; II Peter 1:13,15; 3:1; John 13:34-35.
7. What did Jesus say of rest? Matthew 11:28-29.
8. What test does Paul give as to whether a person has entered into the proper rest? Hebrews 4:9-10.

NOTE: Have you remembered the two dates given to us to remember? The world has forgotten them. Satan has tried to obliterate them. Therefore, the true children of God must remember and keep holy these two appointments of God in order to "worship in spirit and in truth."

Lesson For Sabbath, April 21, 2018

CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 53.

Golden Text: Isaiah 53:8.

1. Of what was the first thing the Apostle Paul made the Gentiles aware? I Corinthians 15:3; Romans 5:6-10; I Corinthians 2:2.
2. Was the crucifixion of Jesus part of the plan of salvation? Matthew 20:28; 18:11; Hebrews 9:13-14.
3. Why was it necessary for the Son of God to die? John 11:49-52; Matthew 26:54; Acts 3:18.
4. How was Jesus to be put to death? John 3:14; Luke 23:20-23.
5. What is meant by being crucified? I Peter 2:24; Acts 5:30; 10:39.
6. Who carried this cross for Jesus? Matthew 27:32; Mark 15:21-22.
7. How was Jesus fastened to the trunk of the tree? Luke 24:38-40; John 20:25; Zechariah 13:6.
8. What should the cross of Christ mean to us today? I Corinthians 1:18; Galatians 3:13,14.
9. What inference should we draw from the crucifixion scene? Hebrews 13:12-13.
10. What is the prophecy concerning the crucifixion as given by the Psalmist? Psalm 22:14-16.

Lesson For Sabbath, April 28, 2018

WHAT WAS NAILED TO THE CROSS OF CHRIST?

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2.

Golden Text: Colossians 2:14.

1. How did Jesus reconcile us unto Himself? Ephesians 2:15-16.
2. What is the "Law of commandments contained in ordinances?" Deuteronomy 31:24-26; Luke 2:22-23.
3. What law was put into the Ark? Hebrews 9:4; Deuteronomy 10:2-5; Exodus 34:1-3.
The two tables of stone were written on by the finger of God. They are the Ten Commandments. This Ten Commandment law is never against us. It is "Just, and Good." Romans 7:12; Psalm 19:7-8.
4. What law then was against us and was contrary to us? Colossians 2:14-17.
5. Why did God give another law to Moses after He had given the Ten Commandments? Exodus 32:7,10; 33:13-14; 34:10; Galatians 3:19.
The Law of Moses (a book) was placed outside on the side of the Ark (Deuteronomy 31:26). It was spoken by God to Moses and is also called God's law as seen in Luke 2:23. These are the commandments contained in ordinances and were only applicable for the Levitical Priesthood. They were never used under the Melchisedec Priesthood in which we are today (Hebrews 7:4,6,21,26-28).
6. Of what was the Apostle Paul afraid? Galatians 4:8-11.
7. Was it Paul's custom to teach against the law of Moses? Acts 21:21,28.
8. What was finished at the cross? John 19:30; Luke 23:44-46.
9. How is this act described in Hebrews? Hebrews 9:1-3,8-10,19; 10:16.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 5, 2018

"THE WORLD HATH NOT KNOWN THEE: BUT I HAVE KNOWN THEE"

Scripture Reading: John 17.

Golden Text: John 17:25.

1. Why did Jesus say, "The world hath not known thee?" Had not God been declared before the nations? Exodus 9:13-16; Isaiah 45:19.
2. Why then have they not known? Matthew 13:14-15. They were shortsighted -- seeing only the temporal things of this life.
3. Why could Jesus say, "I have known thee?" John 14:10; 15:15.
4. What person can look back and say of His Father as Jesus could? John 17:25.
NOTE: As one looks upon the sacrifices made by parents for their children can they say as Jesus did, "The world hath not known thee?" Why? It is because we can see love in every deed, even in punishment. But the world sees only as one sees each other.
5. In what way did Jesus see and know the Father? I Peter 1:20-21; John 3:16.
6. How does the world see the Father? Psalm 10:4,11; II Peter 3:5.
7. In which class are the regenerate? John 17:11,16.
8. Can we see and know the Father as Jesus did? John 17:20-22.
9. What will knowledge of the Father do for us? Philippians 3:13-14.
10. Being like Jesus, who will we be like? Hebrews 1:3.

NOTE: Can we say with sincerity: "O, righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee?"

Lesson For Sabbath, May 12, 2018

ALL THINGS MUST BE FULFILLED

Scripture Reading: II Samuel 7:1-17.

Golden Text: Psalm 132:11.

NOTE: Nearly every incident of the crucifixion of Jesus was foretold and prophesied in the Old Testament. This should cause our faith to increase and believe all the prophecies.

1. What promise was made to King David? II Samuel 7:12-13.
2. What glorious events did David connect with this promise? Psalm 132:11-14.
3. In whom was this prophecy fulfilled? Luke 1:32-33.
4. Did Jesus fulfill this Scripture and sit upon David's throne? Luke 19:11-12; Acts 1:6-7.
5. What was said that is yet to be fulfilled? Deuteronomy 18:18-19.
6. Will this be an instantaneous work when Jesus returns, or will it take time? Isaiah 60:1-5, 10-12; Zechariah 2:10-13.
7. What are some of the works spoken by the "prophets" that have not had their place in history? Isaiah 9:6-7; 32:1,17-18; Jeremiah 23:5-8.
8. How extensive will the kingdom be? Daniel 2:34-35.
9. What will become of the nations? Daniel 7:27; Revelation 11:15.
10. David, looking forward, rejoices at what thought? Psalm 138:4-5.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 19, 2018

"FATHER, FORGIVE THEM; FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO."

Scripture Reading: Psalm 85.

Golden Text: Hebrews 8:12.

1. Through what virtue can we come to fear the Lord? Psalm 130:4; Isaiah 55:6-7.
2. Was forgiving sins a habit with Jesus? Mark 2:5-10.
3. For what reason then was Jesus exalted above all things? Acts 5:31; 10:43; Hebrews 2:9-10.

NOTE: Jesus was terribly abused and tormented. He was maligned and scourged, yet He opened not His mouth until the first words on the way to the cross (Isaiah 53:7; Acts 2:23-24).

4. To whom did Jesus speak on the way to be crucified? Luke 23:27-31.
 5. What were the first words then spoken by Jesus after He was hung on the cross? Luke 23:34.
- NOTE: Jesus had a great loving heart, which was constantly forgiving. Forgiving was predominant with our Lord Jesus even to the death of the cross.*
6. If we are to be like Jesus Christ, must we also forgive our enemies? Mark 11:25-26; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13.
 7. What might happen to us if we do not practice to forgive one another? II Corinthians 2:10-11.
 8. Through whom only can we preach the lesson concerning forgiveness? Acts 13:37-39.
 9. When our sins are forgiven, are they retained or remembered again? Micah 7:18-19; Isaiah 38:17.

10. What was the only way that sins could not be remembered any more? Hebrews 10:3,10,17.

Lesson For Sabbath, May 26, 2018

"THOU SHALT BE WITH ME IN PARADISE"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:24-44.

Golden Text: Isaiah 53:12.

1. With whom was Jesus crucified? Mark 15:27-28; Luke 23:32; John 19:18.
2. What was the feeling of the thieves that were crucified with Jesus? Matthew 27:44; Mark 15:32.
3. What did one of the thieves say to Jesus? Luke 23:39.
4. What possibly caused the other thief to change his mind toward Jesus? Luke 23:33,34.

NOTE: From our lesson last Sabbath, we learned that the first thing that Jesus said after being nailed to the cross was, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." After hearing Jesus ridiculed and then hearing the words of forgiveness, the thief felt remorse. Remorse is the first step towards repentance.

5. What did the repentant thief say to the railing thief? Luke 23:40-41.
6. What did the thief then say to Jesus? verse 42.
7. How did Jesus answer the repentant thief? verse 43.

NOTE: Jesus used the word "Today" to emphasize the day we are to remember; the day of salvation; the day we are saved from our sins the same as the repentant thief was saved. "Today" is parenthetical, and a comma should follow it. This day the church was purchased by the precious blood of Jesus. Hebrews 9:12; Ephesians 1:7.

8. Did the thieves die the same day as Jesus did? John 19:31-33.
9. What is meant by the expression "Paradise"? John 14:2-3; Revelation 2:7; compare with Revelation 21:10; 22:2.

NOTE: The "Paradise of God" is the Holy City, New Jerusalem the "mother of all saints." (Galatians 4:26). This city will come down from God out of heaven when Jesus returns at the resurrection of all saints (Hebrews 11:39-40).

Lesson For Sabbath, June 2, 2018

"FATHER, INTO THY HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT"

Scripture Reading: Luke 23:44-56.

Golden Text: John 19:30.

1. What was the final statement by Jesus on the cross? Luke 23:46. This last statement of Jesus on the cross is misrepresented and misunderstood by many people.
2. What was the hope of Jesus Christ as He hung on the cruel cross? Psalm 16:8-10; Acts 2:25-31.
3. If Christ's hope was in the resurrection, should not every Christian have the same hope? II Corinthians 13:4; Galatians 1:1; Acts 3:26; 26:23.
4. Why did Jesus say to His Father, "Into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit?" I Corinthians 15:44-47.

NOTE: The word "commend" means to entrust or to commit with confidence, or to accredit favorably in safekeeping. Jesus therefore commended His spirit, God's power, to be held in trust until His resurrection. This was the blessed hope within Christ and should also be within every child of God.

5. Should every Christian then also pray for God to "commend" his or her spirit? Romans 8:10-11.
6. How must the life and death of Jesus be manifested in us? II Corinthians 4:10,13-14; I Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 2:5-6.
7. What is meant by Jesus "giving up his ghost?" Psalm 146:3-4; Job 14:10-15.

8. How does the ghost (breath or air) get into the body? Genesis 2:7; 6:17; 7:15,22.

NOTE: The breath of life comes into every creature that is born, and that breath returns again to God who gave it. (Eccl. 12:7). The word "breath" is sometimes used for the word "spirit". In the Aramaic it is "ruah," and in the Greek it is "pneuma." Both mean either air or breath and are translated in our Bible in various places as breath, spirit, or ghost. Breath is the proper word to be used.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 9, 2018

"IT IS FINISHED!"

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5.

Golden Text: John 19:30.

1. What are some of the things that were finished by Jesus on the cross? Colossians 2:14; Ephesians 2:14-18.
2. What else ended at the cross? Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 2:14-15; John 12:31.
3. What was Jesus triumphant over as He died on the cross? Romans 6:5,6,11,14.
4. What was set aside or came to a stand still when the death of Jesus was not recognized? Romans 10:1,3,21; 11:7-10.
5. Who was accepted and given a new start for accepting Christ's death at the cross? Romans 11:25; 10:18-20.
6. What new deed of trust was drawn up at the cross? Acts 20:28.
7. What did Jesus Himself say was finished? John 17:4.
8. What phenomenal happening took place in the temple? Luke 23:45; Matthew 27:51.

NOTE: The veil tearing in the temple broke "down the middle wall of partition" (Ephesians 2:14), and ended the Levitical priesthood with all its ceremonies and ordinances.

9. What priesthood began at Calvary again? Hebrews 5:6,10; 6:20; 7:15.

NOTE: The "new and living way" was instituted by Jesus on the cross. The work of Atonement was finished. There was no need anymore for sacrifices and ordinances. There is nothing finished that WE do. Only what Christ did could be finished. Christ is the end of all things as well as the beginning. The grand relief is that we are "Complete" in Jesus (Colossians 2:10). Christ and His finished work is the ground of all our hopes.

Lesson for Sabbath, June 16, 2018

"WOMAN, BEHOLD THY SON... (SON) BEHOLD THY MOTHER"

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 31:10-31.

Golden Text: James 1:27.

1. Which is the Commandment with a promise attached to it? Ephesians 6:2-3; Deuteronomy 5:16.
 2. For what did Jesus upbraid the Pharisees concerning their regards for this Commandment? Matthew 15:4-6; Mark 7:10-12.
 3. Who was standing by the cross of Jesus? John 19:25.
 4. What was John's family relationship to Jesus? Matthew 4:21. Compare these verses: Matthew 27:56; Mark 15:40; and John 19:25. John's mother then was a sister to Jesus' mother. Her name was Salome, and she married Zebedee. John the apostle was a cousin to Jesus.
 5. Over whom does God watch with greater care? Psalm 65:5; 146:9; Proverbs 15:25.
- NOTE: Jesus was doing the will of His Father when He looked out for His mother's care even while dying on the cross. Jesus never called Mary "Mother"-- always "woman"-- to remind her of what the angel Gabriel told her.*
6. Into whose care did Jesus place his mother? John 19:26-27.
 7. Did John continue to look after Jesus' mother? II John. Read the whole epistle, and note the family unity in material and spiritual things. Note especially verses 12 and 13.

NOTE: John uses the word "Truth" five times in this short letter. He also stresses that more love be manifested in the family toward each other. Love is prefaced though with a warning that we should practice more Christian love and not encourage friendship with the enemies of truth.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 23, 2018

"I THIRST"

Scripture Reading: John 4:1-14.

Golden Text: John 19:28.

1. What experience did Jesus have the night before His crucifixion? Luke 22:41-44; Hebrews 5:7-9.

NOTE: This is the most pitiful and agonizing experience Jesus had in Gethsemane. Jesus knew that He was going to suffer and die. This agony weakened Jesus physically. Sweating caused Jesus to desire drinking water.

2. What was Jesus given to drink before He was crucified? Mark 15:22-23; Matthew 27:33,34.

NOTE: It was customary to eat bread dipped into vinegar. Vinegar was soured grape juice that had become old. To flavor this sour grape juice (vinegar), condiments were added such as oil, aloe, myrrh, gall, etc. This was part of the daily diet. Ruth 2:14; John 13:26. It was not intoxicating.

3. Why did Jesus not drink of the vinegar? Mark 14:25; Matthew 26:29.

4. Jesus knew that He would not drink the vinegar offered to Him; then why did he say "I thirst?" John 19:28.

5. What prophecy was He fulfilling? Psalm 69:21-22.

6. What was filled with vinegar and held up to Jesus? John 19:29; Matthew 27:48. Hyssop is like a reed which was used like a drinking straw. The vinegar was put up to Jesus' lips, but it does not say he drank it.

7. If we thirst, what should we practice? John 7:37; Matthew 5:6; Psalm 42:2.

8. What can we look forward to in the coming kingdom? Revelation 7:16; 21:6; John 4:13-14.

Lesson For Sabbath, June 30, 2018

"MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME"

Scripture Reading: Mark 15:25-35.

Golden Text: Matthew 27:46.

1. At what time was Jesus put on the cross? Mark 15:1,25.

NOTE: The first hour began with our 6:00 a.m. The third hour would be our 9:00 a.m. The sixth hour is our noon, and the ninth hour is comparable to our 3:00 p.m. The daylight was divided into twelve hours from six to six, and the nighttime was divided into four watches. Each watch was three hours in length.

2. What happened at noon (the sixth hour)? Mark 15:33; Luke 23:44; Zechariah 14:6-7.

NOTE: For three hours, inanimate nature hid her face in shame at the unspeakable wickedness of men. God may have meant the darkness to be creation's symbolic mourning for Jesus while He was suffering.

3. What did Jesus say about the ninth hour? Mark 15:34.

4. What Psalm did Jesus use as He called upon God Almighty? Psalm 22:1-4.

NOTE: Notice that Jesus did not cry out with the title "Yahweh." He addressed His Father as "El," God Almighty. God Almighty and His creative powers were needed by Jesus in his suffering hour.

5. Why did Jesus feel so forsaken? Mark 14:50; Matthew 26:56.

6. Had God actually forsaken His only begotten Son? Acts 2:23,27,30; Deuteronomy 4:31.

7. What did some of the spectators think Jesus said? Matthew 27:47,49; Luke 23:48; Psalm 22:7.

NOTE: Jesus surely felt all alone. Most of His disciples had fled, and darkness was upon the land. Jesus had to bear the cross alone. His Father was sadly watching.