

SERMON NOTES

Draw Near: And Be Ready
Matthew 26:26-29; Acts 1:6-12; Zechariah 14:4;
Matthew 16:27; Revelation 19:9

We have climbed many mountains and hills in the Bible over the past several weeks! Today, we turn our attention again to the Mount of Olives. Jesus' last earthly encounter with His disciples occurred here. On this mountain, He filled their hearts with purpose and promise. Jesus told His disciples to remember why He came and to be ready for His return.

Key thought: When you draw near to the Lord, you will be reminded of the gospel and you will want to be ready for His return!

DRAW NEAR AND REMEMBER – LOOKING BACK

Matthew 26:26-30

We were just here two weeks ago, learning how to “draw near and surrender.” Jesus came to the Mount of Olives after celebrating the Passover meal with His disciples. In the garden of Gethsemane He modeled surrender to the eternal purposes of God. As we climb back up the Mount of Olives, we are reminded of His death, burial, and resurrection. We are reminded that the entirety of Scripture...

- Reveals redemptive history – the storyline of the Bible
- Is about the Redeemer – Jesus. “The Lord’s Supper serves, then, to point the people of God in hope to the certain return of Christ.”

“There is a complementary way in which we see the Lord’s Supper looking back to what has gone before it. The Passover meal was a founding ordinance of the old covenant. This meal was instituted on the eve of the Passover event and on the cusp of the exodus. The Passover and the exodus were the founding redemptive events of the covenant that God made with Israel through Moses at Mount Sinai. In the Lord’s Supper, Jesus announces that the “cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood” (Luke 22:20). The Supper, then, will be an ordinance of what Jesus calls the new covenant. This ordinance and the covenant to which it is joined point to the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross (“in my blood”). With the resurrection of Jesus, the death of Christ serves as the historical, redemptive foundation of the new covenant. Both covenants are founded upon a great redemptive event, and both covenants have a meal instituted to commemorate that event.” *Guy Prentiss Waters*

DRAW NEAR AND BE READY – LOOKING FORWARD

Matthew 26:29-30; Acts 1:6-12; Revelation 19:9

At His ascension, the disciples were reminded of Christ’s promise to return. Jesus not only commissioned them for service, but warned them of readiness. Being ready for the return of Jesus means...

- Living every day with confidence Jesus is coming again
- Living every day preparing for Jesus to come again
- Living every day longing for Jesus to come again