MATTHEW 26:36-46
April 1, 2007

The cross and even the empty tomb were made ***possible*** by the victory in the ***garden***.

Ephesians 6:12; Matthew 4:1-11

The temptation that Satan was hurling at Jesus was to ***abandon*** God's plan, to skip the crucifixion, to find some way that avoids him having to bear our ***sin***.

When Jesus returns after the third prayer, he returns in ***victory***. The battle is decided, the question is answered, the debate is won. ***Jesus*** is the victor.

Practical Principles

1) The difficulties of life are won and lost ***before*** you ever face them when you decide whose will you will live by. The battle is won in ***prayer*** before there is ever any action.

2) The enemy is ***real*** and will do whatever he can to keep you from ***prayer*** and to tempt you to change your mind once you've chosen God's will.

3) We need people, but they can't ***make*** the decisions for you nor ***fight*** the battles in your place.

The battle in the garden was the motional and spiritual battle of the ***humanity*** of Christ submitting to the ***divine*** calling of His Father.

John 10:17-18

There is no Golgotha, the hill where Jesus ***died***, without Gethsemane, the garden where Jesus ***submitted***.

NOTES