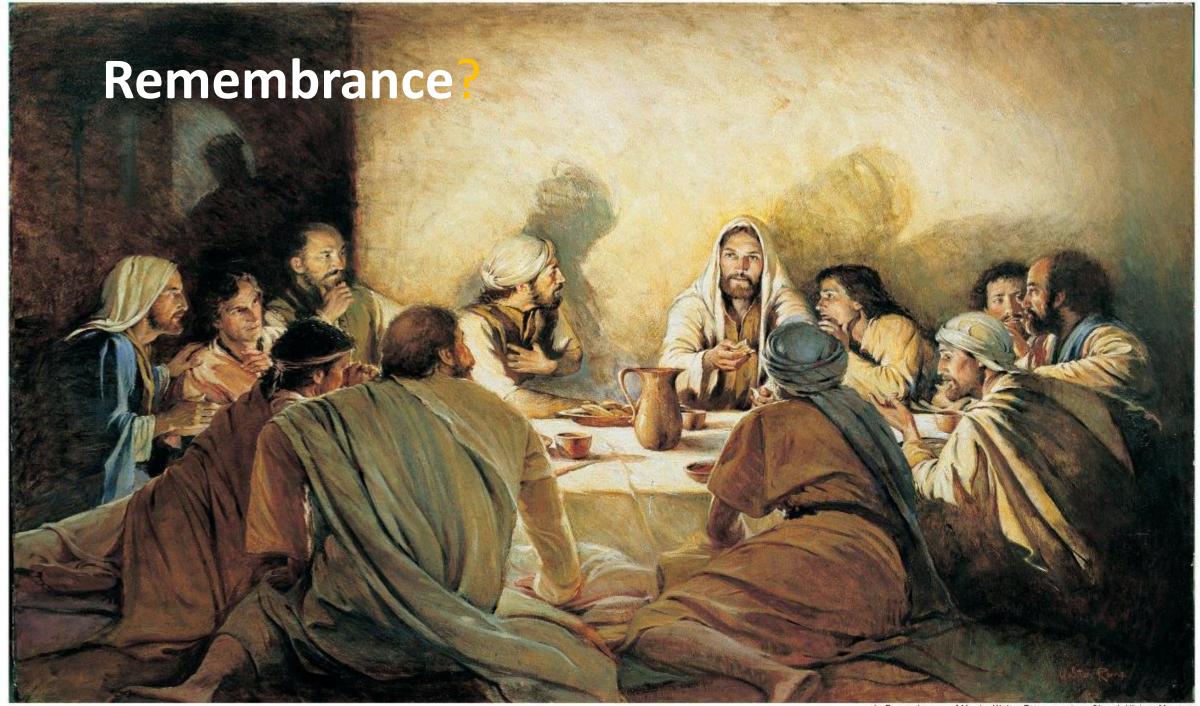


Word Lessons from the final days

Luke 22: 14-21





The oil lamps cast a soft light in the small upper room that fateful evening. A relaxed, intimate supper with the Lord. Little did anyone know of what was about to transpire during the next few days. It was always special being alone with the Master. No crowds pressing against Him on every side. No contemptuous religious leaders firing accusatory questions in an effort to trap this man "full of blasphemy".

A simple meal- bread, drink, quiet conversation. A remembrance of deliverance from certain death. The revelation of treachery. A Heavenly ritual initiated. A startling display of the meaning of true service.

165 Thus Remember Me

John 13: 12-16





95s Servant's Song





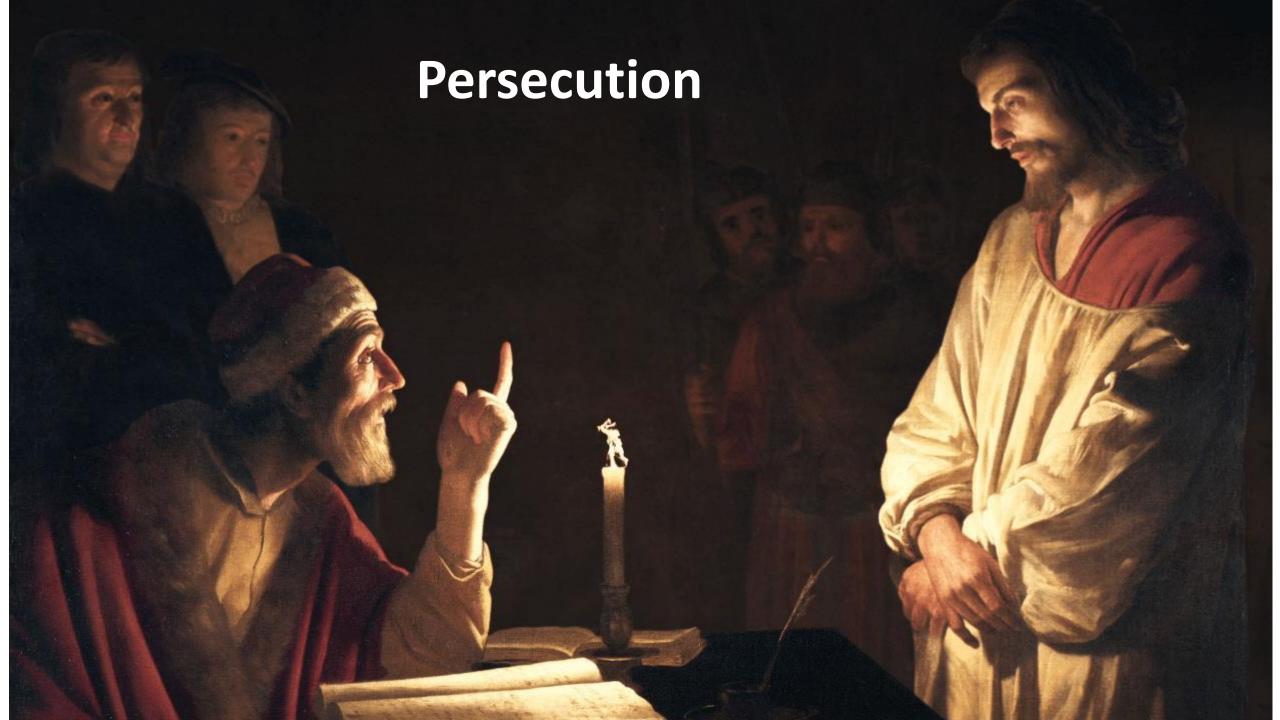
The ever growing weight of the cup--carried His entire adult life. The time was quickly drawing nigh. There was one final thing that needed to be done. His agony begins in an intensity of prayer we will likely never imitate. The Prince of Peace surrenders His will to His Father's. Perfect obedience. Humble submission. Forsakened by His sleepy loved ones. Alone, but not *really* alone.

635 A Beautiful Prayer

Matthew 26: 47-54



Luke 22: 66—23: 12













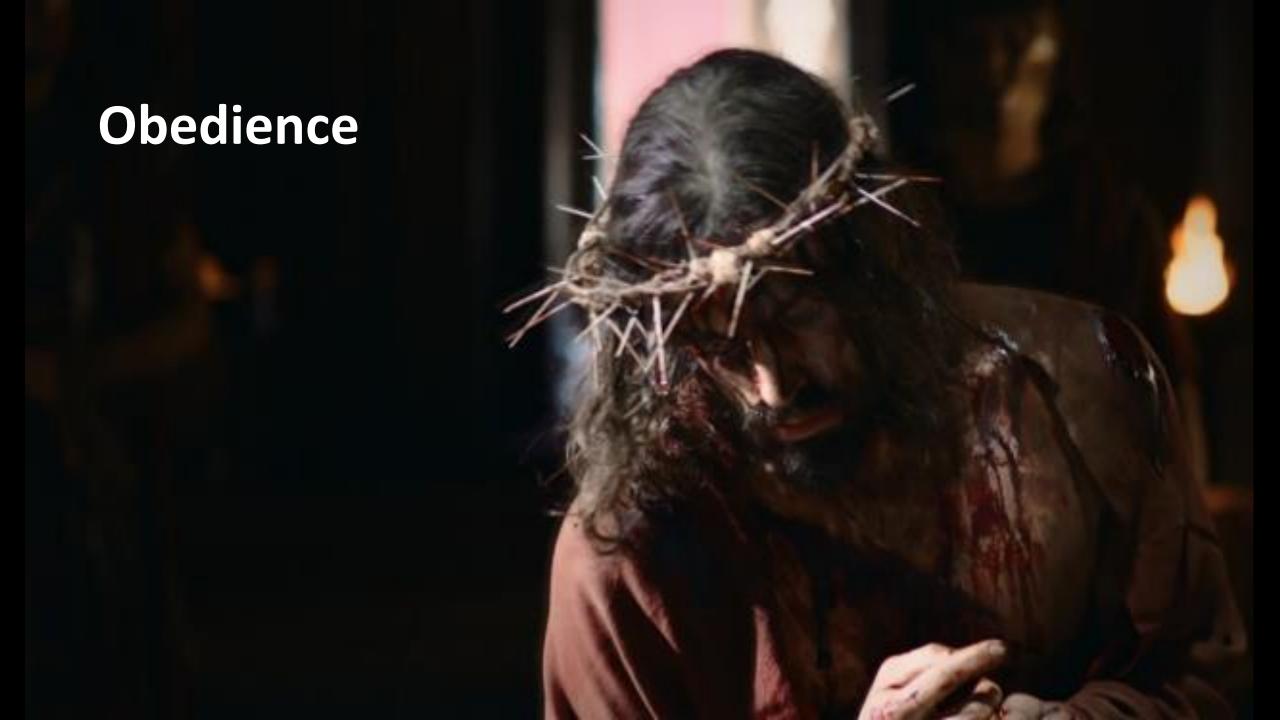


The perfect Lamb remained silent before His shearers. He knew very well what had to happen. Not a word of contempt was upon His lips. The Lord of Heaven and Earth is questioned by little men with giant egos full of insecurity and self-importance. The blood thirsty crowd failed to see the extraordinary, loving man standing before them-- for who He really was. Are we ever guilty of that same thing today?

121 l'Il Be a Friend to Jesus









Matthew 27: 32-44, 54





Such suffering is painful to contemplate. We suffer nothing in our lives that could compare. He suffered for the abortion clinic doctor. He suffered for the bearded man in a red dress, high heels, and lipstick. For the intoxicated driver who thoughtlessly takes your youngest son. He bled for the work place atheist who belittles your beliefs. For the stranger who kidnaps and abuses your precious young daughter. For the deranged high school shooter. He died for the soul of the desperate meth addict robbing the grandmother. For all those who have lived with the rot of sin. Now ask yourself: Would I lay down my life for such as these? Could I love the ungodly so much that I would suffer and die for them? If we're honest, we would have to admit that we never could. Especially not with love as our sole motivation. But then, isn't that our calling; our mission; our goal? Agape doesn't draw boundaries. Jesus was incredibly special. His love was truly boundless and unconditional. Slain to give life to all who were already dead. His compassion and forgiveness penetrate into the darkest, most wretched souls.

15s Exalted











102s And Can It Be?

Mark 15: 42-47

16: 1-8





Trust









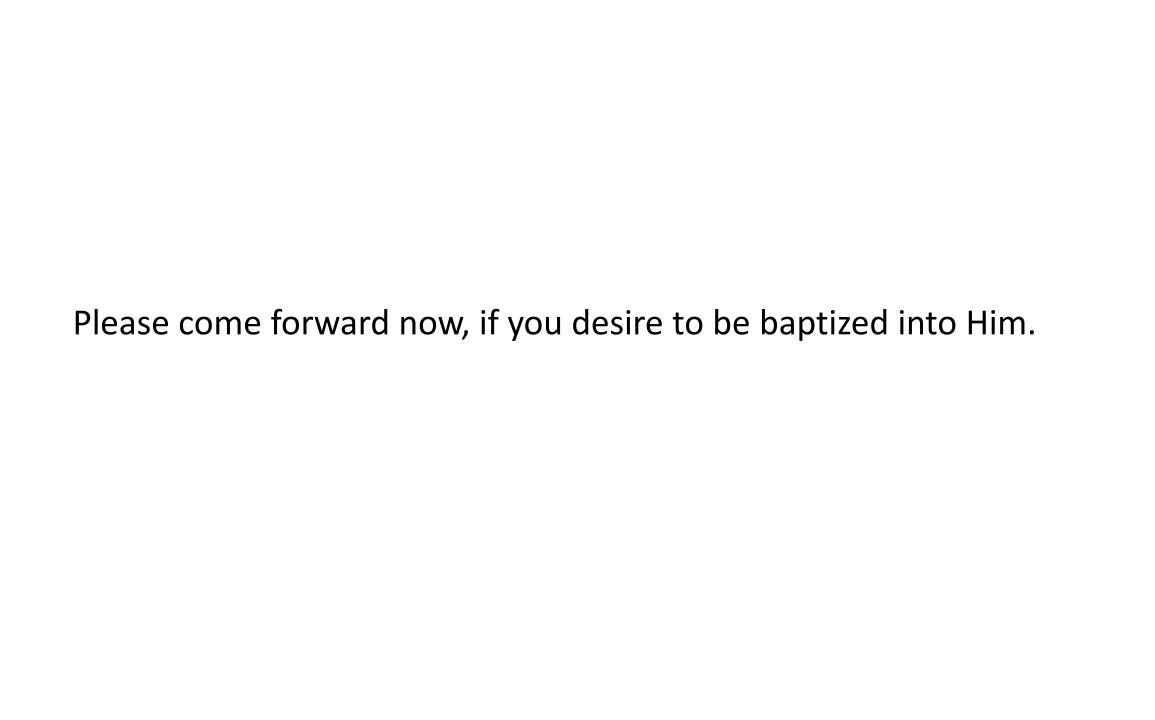


174 Christ Arose



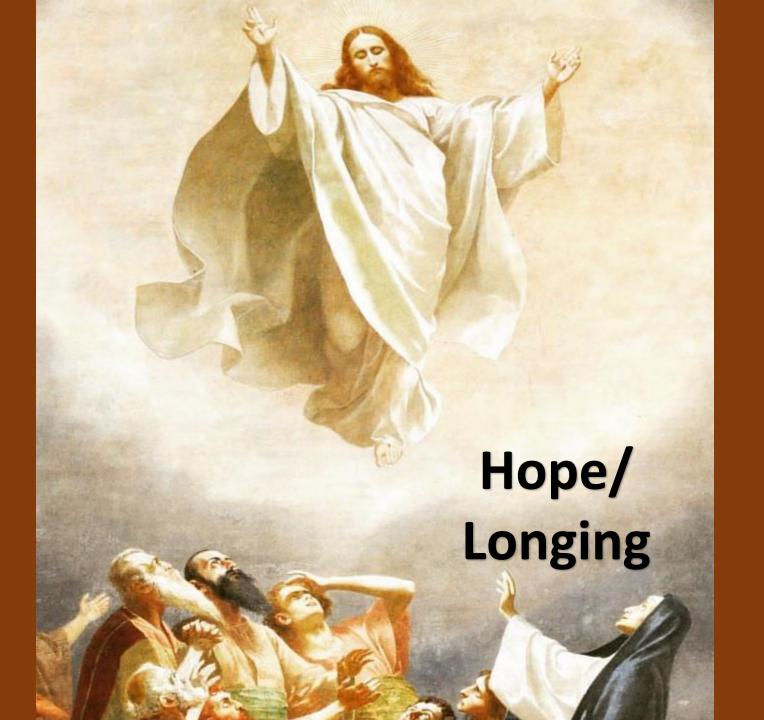


Our foundation as Christians hinges on the truth and reality of the resurrection. Besides Jesus, many cruel and vicious men hung on the cross during Jesus' time. But there was never one who returned from death. Clearly this was the hallmark of Deity. Believing by seeing is the norm. Believing without seeing elevates our faith to a maturity that is able to see us through all of life's hardships. In baptism, we are raised to become a new creature. From the death of sin, we are given life in Him. Not I, but Christ



487 A New Creature

1 Thes 4: 16-17





473When He Comes in Glory By and By