

# SCRIPTURE TEXT:

## MATTHEW 26:36-46

“Then JESUS came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples,  
*‘Sit here while I go and pray over there.’*

And HE took with HIM Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and HE began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.

**Matthew 26:36-37**

“Then HE said to them,  
*‘MY soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with ME.’*

HE went a little farther and fell on HIS face, and prayed, saying,

*‘O MY FATHER, if it is possible, let this cup pass from ME; nevertheless, not as I will, but as YOU will.’*”

**Matthew 26:38-39**

“Then HE came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter,

*‘What! Could you not watch with ME one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.’*

The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak”

**Matthew 26:40-41**

“Again, a second time, HE went away and prayed, saying,

*‘O MY FATHER, if this cup cannot pass away from ME unless I drink it, YOUR will be done.’*

And HE came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy.”

**Matthew 26:42-43**

“So HE left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

Then HE came to HIS disciples and said to them,

*‘Are you still sleeping and resting?’*”

**Matthew 26:44-45a**

“Behold, the hour  
is at hand,  
and the SON OF MAN  
is being betrayed  
into the hands of sinners.

Rise, let us be going.  
See, My betrayer is at hand.”

**Matthew 26:45b-46**

## **SERMON TITLE:**

**“THE POWER  
OF CHOICE”  
PART IV**

### **POWER OF CHOICE:**

[8/02]=> INTRODUCTION  
(GENERAL);

[8/16]=> ADAM & EVE;

[8/23]=> THREE WISE MEN;

[8/30]=> JESUS IN THE GARDEN

[8/02]=> INTRODUCTION  
(GENERAL);

[8/16]=> CHOICE CAN BE  
CONSEQUENTIAL;

[8/23]=> CHOICE CAN BE  
HISTORICAL;

[8/30]=> CHOICE CAN BE ETERNAL

### **KEY DECISIONS IN THE BIBLE:**

**EVE & ADAM;**  
ELIJAH & ELISHA:  
**RUTH & NAOMI;**  
ESTHER & MORDECAI;  
**DAVID & SAUL;**  
JOSEPH & MARY:  
**PRISCILLA & AQUILA;**  
PAUL & PETER:

### **KEY DECISIONS IN THE BIBLE:**

**JOSEPH:**  
MOSES:  
**JOSHUA:**  
HANNAH:  
**JONAH**  
JOB:  
**JESUS:**

“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve THE LORD, **choose** this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River...”

**Joshua 24:15a**

“...or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.

But as for me and my house, we will serve THE LORD.”

**Joshua 24:15b**

“Because they hated knowledge and did not **choose** the fear of THE LORD, would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof...”

**Proverbs 1:29-30**

“Let us **choose** what is right; let us know among ourselves what is good.”

**Job 34:4**

“Who is the man who fears THE LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should **choose**.”

**Psalms 25:12**

“You did not choose ME, but I **chose** you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the FATHER in my name, HE may give it to you.”

**John 15:16**

“Be anxious for nothing, but by all prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto GOD and the peace of GOD which surpasses ALL understanding will guard your heart and mind in CHRIST JESUS.”

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**(1)...“CIRCUMSTANTIAL:”**  
-FREEDOM FROM COERCION;

**(2)...“NATURAL:”**  
-FREEDOM TO DETERMINE WANTS;

**(3)...“ACQUIRED:”**  
- FREEDOM TO LIVE AS GOD WANTS

### KEY WORDS & DEFINITIONS

**(1)...“FREEDOM” VS “FREE WILL”**  
-ABILITY TO PURSUE DESIRE(S);  
WITHOUT BONDAGE;

**(2)...“PRE-DESTINATION”**  
-TO BE DESIGNATED  
BEFOREHAND ;

**(3)...“ELECTION:”**  
-ONE’S BEEN CHOSEN;

-A POSSIBILITY OF SOMETHING HAPPENING.

-THE OCCURRENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY OBVIOUS DESIGN; ACCIDENTAL; FORTUITOUS

**(2)...“RANDOMNESS”**  
-THE QUALITY OR STATE OF LACKING A PATTERN OR PRINCIPLE OF ORGANIZATION;  
UNPREDICTABILITY.





“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of GOD and not of us.

*We are hard-pressed on every side, **yet not crushed**; we are perplexed, but **not** in despair; persecuted, but **not** forsaken; struck down, but **not** destroyed—”*

**II Corinthians 4:7-9**