

JESUS STAINED GLASS: CHRIST IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE



Stained Glass Window 1249: Jesus' Appeal

GETHSEMANE

Aside from *suffering and dying on the cross*, it can be argued that *Christ's Passion in the Garden of Gethsemane* represented some of the Savior's darkest hours during His earthly life. Jesus asks God the Father to spare Him from the trials He knows He will soon face. In the midst of His agony, however, Jesus is able to accept the will of the Father. While the scene in the garden is undoubtedly one of the more solemn subjects of *religious stained glass*, it can also serve as an important lesson. Like Jesus, we will all face trials and hardship during our time on Earth. Like Him, we may ask to be delivered from these troubles, but we must always place the will of God above our own needs and desires.

THE STORY OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

The suffering of *Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane* is described in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. After *Jesus ate and drank in the company of the Apostles for the final time at the Last Supper, He went to the garden to pray*. Three of His disciples—Peter, John, and James—were there with Him. The Savior knows of the sacrifice He is being asked to make, but prays to the Father to release Him from this



Stained Glass Window 5094: Not My Will

THE STORY OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE CONTINUED

obligation. In anguish, the Lord cried out in the garden: ***“let this cup pass from me!”*** He asked this of the Father three times. Even in this time of tribulation, however, He concedes to God’s unending wisdom, saying: ***“your will be done.”***

The disciples of Jesus offer Him little comfort during the hours leading up to His arrest. Those who accompany Him to the Garden of Gethsemane fall asleep three times while Jesus prays to the Father. And it is ***Judas—a man who Jesus loved as a dear friend—that betrays his Savior*** with a kiss in exchange for 30 pieces of silver. During ***His Passion***, though, Jesus receives comfort and strength in the arms of an angel from Heaven. Stained glass art focusing on this aspect of the ***Gethsemane*** story shows us that even when we feel deserted by those we thought were our friends, there is still a source of divine love from up above.

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