

Part 4, Paper 182, In Gethsemane, Midwayer Commission

Sun, Oct 06, 2024 7:47AM 9:46

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Jesus' last night, John Mark, Judas' betrayal, final prayer, faith sons, eternal life, spiritual connection, God's will, Gethsemane anguish, apostles' reaction, Nathaniel's stance, Judas' deal, David Zebedee, John Mark's account, universal faith

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah



John 00:00

Welcome back, everybody. It's time for another deep dive, and this time we're looking at some excerpts from the Urantia Book, specifically about Jesus's last night before. Well, you know. And what really gets me is how John Mark tells it, it's so different from the Gospels. Oh, it's



Sarah 00:15

fascinating, isn't it? Like you'd think that night would be well, pretty well documented, but John Mark gives us this, like insider perspective on Jesus's emotions. You just don't see that anywhere else,



John 00:26

right? It's like we're right there with them. So we start with Jesus and the apostles heading back to their camp after visiting Elijah and Mary mark. Now John Mark actually stays behind at first, but then he follows them. And, I mean, he is practically glued to Jesus's side all night, but there's this tension right from the start, Judas is missing, yeah,



Sarah 00:45

and it's not just that he's missing. The other apostles are starting to suspect something's up. I mean, they've talked about Jesus predicting his betrayal, and now Jesus is gone. It's like a giant flashing neon sign. They even ask Andrew about it straight out and get



J John 00:59

this. Andrew's answer is really interesting. He's like, Yeah, I have no idea where Judas is, but you can tell he's worried, like he's thinking the worst that Judas has abandoned them totally. It

S Sarah 01:09

just makes it so real. You know, these weren't like untouchable figures. This was real betrayal, real fear, happening to real people.

J John 01:17

And right in the middle of all this, Jesus leads them in this, like, final prayer. And I don't mean a quickie either. They go to their usual spot on the Mount of Olives, you know, overlooking Jerusalem, and they kneel in a circle, just like they did when they were ordained. Talk about setting the scene. Oh,

S Sarah 01:33

absolutely. And the prayer itself, wow, he's basically acknowledging to God that His time has come, and he's asking to be, you know, glorified, but then he goes on about giving eternal life to these get this faith, sons of God.

J John 01:47

Faith, sons of God. Now that's a phrase. So what's the Urantia Book say about that? What does that even mean?

S Sarah 01:52

Well, it's not about like literally being someone's kid. It's about this deep spiritual connection, like, by believing in Jesus, by following his teachings, you become a son of God, spiritually, and boom, eternal life. And it's not even like you gotta wait to die. You can tap into that, like right now, by aligning yourself with God's will.

J John 02:10

So it's like reaching this whole other level of existence, but like still here exactly.

S Sarah 02:14

And then Jesus's prayer takes another turn. He's not just talking about keeping his followers safe. He's praying for them to be united, like, really deeply connected, the same way he's connected to God. okav. but

J John 02:28
here's the kicker, he's not saying they all have to be the same, believe all the same things, right? Exactly.

S Sarah 02:32
He's all about them being individuals within that shared faith. Like, hey, you do you? You disagree, no problem. But we can still be connected on

J John 02:42
this deeper level. Now that's a message I think we could all use a little more of these days. You

S Sarah 02:46
said it, and it really plays into the whole Urantia Book idea of the Universal Father, right, this God who loves and accepts everyone, differences and all.

J John 02:54
Yeah, it's not your typical conformity and blind faith message, that's for sure. And then he even says that everything that belongs to God is now his talk about a deep bond,

S Sarah 03:02
huge and then he talks about how he's revealed God's name through his life, through what he's taught. You've been studying this book for a while now. How does that line about revealing God's name? How does that connect with what the Urantia Book says about like, the Supreme Being, the whole shebang? Ooh.

J John 03:20
Good one? Okay, well, the book describes God as this, like massive complex being, right, way beyond anything we can really understand with our little human brains. So maybe when Jesus is talking about revealing God's name, it's not like a literal name. It's more like He's showing us what God is like, you know, on a level that we can actually

S Sarah 03:40
grasp. It's like he's saying, wanna understand God, look at me. Look at how I lived exactly

grasp. It's like he's saying, wanna understand God, look at me. Look at how I lived exactly.

J John 03:44

And that's when you really start to see the weight of it all sinking in for Jesus as the night goes on.

S Sarah 03:49

It's like, whoa. This is really happening. And you start to see it, you know, these human emotions just pouring out of him. The excerpts even talk about how he was sweating, like profusely because of the anguish. Makes you remember, even divine, he was still human, you know, feeling that fear. And then there's

J John 04:05

Gethsemane. I mean, we've all heard about it, but reading it here in these excerpts, the rawness, you know, is he's praying to God, asking if there's any possible way to avoid what's coming. Man, it gets to you.

S Sarah 04:19

It's heavy stuff, facing a horrific death, and he's still hoping, praying for another way. It's something we can all relate to, right? Even when we know something's inevitable, there's that tiny part of you that still hopes, still pleads for a different outcome,

J John 04:32

heartbreaking. But here's where it gets really interesting, even with all the anguish, wanting another way out, he still chooses to accept God's will, and he doesn't just tacitly accept it, either. He completely owns it. He's like, Not my will yours. Let's do this now that that takes guts. Talk

S Sarah 04:50

about strength. It's like he's showing us that real strength isn't about avoiding the hard stuff, but facing it head on with your faith intact makes

J John 04:57

you think, how often do we try to weasel out of Tufts? Situations, yeah, instead of just facing them, trusting that maybe, just maybe, there's something bigger

S

Sarah 05:06

at play, you got it. It's like this universal struggle, wanting to be comfortable, but also knowing deep down that sometimes you gotta go through the fire to grow. And speaking of facing things head on, can we talk about the apostles for a sec. I mean, here's Jesus going through this massive internal struggle, and they're doing what most of us would probably do, snoozing. I

J

John 05:29

know, right? You'd think they could at least try to stay awake. They were wiped.

S

Sarah 05:33

Those last few days had been intense, to say the least, but still, it adds another layer to the whole thing, you know, like they're armed and ready to throw down for this guy, but they can even offer him a little comfort in his final hours.

J

John 05:45

So human, right? Yeah, we all fall short sometimes, especially when we're tired, stressed, or just plain caught up in our own heads. And it shows even those closest to Jesus, they were still human flaws and all

S

Sarah 05:56

absolutely and here's another little tidbit that I find fascinating. We've got Nathaniel right, one of the apostles, and he refuses to arm himself. He even goes on this whole tangent about how Jesus always said his kingdom wasn't of this world, that they shouldn't be fighting with swords, and so all opposite of the other apostles were ready to rumble right? It just goes to show you, there were different schools of thought, even among Jesus's crew. Nathaniel's stance. It's like this reminder that there's always been more than one way to live out your faith. What matters is that you walk the walk you know, even when it gets tough.

J

John 06:29

And it's not like Nathaniel was being naive either. He was choosing to trust what Jesus had taught even with danger staring him in the face really makes you think about what faith actually means. It's

S

Sarah 06:40

about believing in something bigger, something beyond ourselves, even when it seems impossible. But amidst all this, it's important to remember Judas is out there making deals with the devil, basically, and Jesus knows it. He even sends messengers out, saying his goodbyes

the devil, basically, and Jesus knows it. He even sends messengers out, saying his goodbyes, getting ready for what's next. It's

J John 06:57

like that moment with David Zebedee, the one who volunteered to stand guard and even made sure Jesus's family was safe. Jesus, he thanks him for his loyalty, even promises they'll work together in the eternal kingdom. Talk about comforting your friends while your world's falling apart. It's powerful stuff, right? Comforting your friends when you're the one staring down the barrel. And we've seen so much of Jesus in these excerpts, his strength, his doubts, that unwavering faith. But even facing death, he's still thinking about everyone else. It's pretty

S Sarah 07:25

amazing. There's this part where he's saying goodbye to Andrew, and he's like, look, keep everyone together. Okay? He even tells Andrew to make sure the others are strong. Reminds him that he's been preparing them for this, passing

J John 07:36

the torch, right? Trusting them to carry on his mission. Although it's funny, the excerpts mentioned that most of them still don't really get it. They think they've got time, like the authorities will wait until morning or something, still

S Sarah 07:48

thinking like regular folks while Jesus is on a whole other level. It just shows you, even after everything, they didn't fully grasp what was happening. And

J John 07:56

speaking of being on another level, we gotta talk about John Mark, our favorite eavesdropper, this guy. He just can't get enough.

S Sarah 08:05

I know, right? His dedication is almost comical. He's supposed to be keeping watch, but he is so fixated on Jesus that he ditches his post and follows them. He even hides in the bushes at one point, just to be near like

J John 08:17

a spy movie, peeking through branches to catch a glimpse of Jesus in the garden. But seriously, John Mark's account gives us his incredibly personal view of those last moments before Judas

John Mark's account gives us his incredibly personal view of those last moments before Jesus shows up with the guards. Totally

S

Sarah 08:29

he's like our eyes and ears right there with them. And what he sees, well, it's both heartbreaking and inspiring. Jesus knows what's coming, the betrayal, the pain, everything, but he finds strength in prayer and chooses to follow God's plan. That choice,

J

John 08:45

that's what gets me. We've talked a lot about Jesus' experience here, but what about us? We're living in a totally different world now, but this stuff still matters, doesn't it?

S

Sarah 08:54

100% we all have our own gethsemanes, right? Those moments where fear takes over, where we have to choose faith over doubt. Times when we have to surrender to something bigger than ourselves and Jesus his commitment facing down unimaginable suffering, that's a powerful example for all of us, right?

J

John 09:11

It's like this reminder that faith isn't passive. It's about actively choosing to believe, even when it's tough, even when it doesn't make sense. It's about finding that strength inside ourselves to face whatever comes our way with that same courage, that compassion that Jesus showed

S

Sarah 09:26

us. It's a timeless message. It

J

John 09:27

really is. So next time you're feeling lost, a little uncertain, come back to this deep dive. Remember Jesus's faith his heart, his willingness to let go for something bigger. You might be surprised at the strength you find in yourself, and that's our deep dive for today, until next time, keep searching, keep asking questions and keep diving deep.