

**A WEEK OF WONDERS  
GETHSEMANE TO GABBATHA  
MATTHEW 26:30-75**

Today is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time.

In the springtime our clocks spring ahead. And since you're here this AM, you were probably well warned.

But have you ever thought, *why the inconvenience?*

I use to think DST's primary purpose was to provide longer hours for Little League baseball practice. *But there're all kinds of reasons for our bi-annual ordeal...*

A primary rationale for DST is energy savings. With longer sunlight the need for electric lights shortens.

In 2005, a chief lobbyist for the expansion of DST was Seven-Eleven. Evidently, more sunlight is more time to sell Slurpees. DST is good for retail business.

And did you know that Woodrow Wilson, an avid golfer, vetoed Congress's repeal of DST in 1919. The longer days gave the president more time on the links.

Yet there's another seldom mentioned reason for DST. Most crimes are committed [under the cover of darkness](#), so an increase in ambient light during high-crime hours allows people to better defend themselves and identify potential perpetrators. *DST reduces crime.*

Well, that being true, it's obvious there was no such thing as DST in 32AD, for the night of the Passover was laden with sinister activity. High-crimes abounded.

That night, **under the cover of darkness**, evil came out to play... *Lethargic disciples, a traitorous Judas, a violent Peter, a ruthless posse, a jealous Caiaphas, plotting Jews, complicit Romans..* were all criminal.

Heaven's police blotter could hardly keep up...

We're on the second leg of Jesus' race to the finish line - from a Garden named "**Gethsemane**" to a police precinct called "**Gabbatha.**" We're tracking Jesus from *Grand Arrival* to *Glorious Return* - from *His Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem* to *His Ascension back to Heaven.*

**And today is that night.**

All that happened from Gethsemane to Gabbatha took place *under the cover of darkness.* The events we'll talk about today were illuminated by moonlight, and torches, and a campfire. The climatic sound of this tragic night will be a rooster crowing to greet the dawn.

I don't know if we can chart the phases of the moon back to 32AD, but I'll bet it was just a slither in the sky. On this particular night, *the dark seemed the darkest.*

The night began on a happy-enough tone. Jesus and His disciples had left the upper room praising God.

Matthew 26:30 wraps up the time they spent in the loft with an intriguing thought, "**And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.**"

Imagine Jesus singing! Do you think He was a tenor or a bass? *He'll carry our sins... could He carry a tune?*

We do know what hymns they sang. The basic order of a Jewish Passover hasn't changed since the time of Christ. At the end everyone sings **the Hallel Psalms.**

Here's a sampling of [Psalms 113-118](#) - lyrics sung by Jesus and His disciples... "He raises the poor out of the dust, and lifts the needy..." "Our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases..." Jesus is about to submit to the Father's will. "I love the LORD because He has heard My voice and my supplications..." Jesus will go deep into the Garden to lift His voice in fervent prayer.

"The pains of death surrounded me..." The cross is looming. "I was brought low, and He saved Me. Return to Your rest, O My soul..." He'll receive strength for the next day. "For You have delivered My soul from death... I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living..." Throughout the cross, Jesus is fixed on resurrection.

Then Psalm 118:22, a song Jesus and His disciples most certainly sang that night, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone."

This verse is quoted 5 times in the NT. The architects of Judaism will reject Him before morning light, but God makes Jesus the cornerstone for a new spiritual house - the Church... *They sang all these prophecies!*

For the Passover most Jews were home with their families. Jesus and His disciples walked through empty streets - out of the Jewish section of the city downhill toward the Valley just beside the colossal Temple...

Just a few hours earlier the Temple had been a beehive of activity. Thousands of families brought lambs to be sacrificed. Priests were called in for duty.

Thirty years later, Josephus, the Jewish historian, counted 256,000 lambs slaughtered at the Passover.

The Temple was constructed with drains that siphoned off the blood and diverted it into the valley.

On this night, Jesus walks by the Temple and across the Kidron Valley and its river of blood. Did He have to hurdle the bloody stream that flowed under His feet?

For weeks Jesus had been predicting His crucifixion.

Earlier that night He spoke of His blood shed for His disciples. What feelings did it conjure up in Jesus when He saw the sacrificial blood draining through the valley.

The payment for man's sin would ultimately require the blood of a perfect, sinless sacrifice. *All the blood, of all the lambs, of all the years* had set the stage for His sacrifice. It was all a reminder of what was before Him.

On the other side of the valley - the western slope of the Mount of Olives - Jesus and His men entered a garden. It was a spot they'd visited before. Olive trees dot the hill east of Jerusalem, and this garden was the site of a grove of trees and an accompanying press.

The word "*Gethsemane*" means "oil press."

When olives are harvested they're bagged and put under a press. Weights pull down the arm and squeeze the olives. The oil runs into a trough and gets collected.

*Jesus and His disciples are coming to the oil press for the same reason.* Everybody will be pressed this night. Commitments will be squeezed. Loyalties tested.

Jesus is squeezed. His moment of decision is here. Will Messiah fulfill the purpose for which He was sent?

And the disciples will be squeezed of their pride and self-sufficiency. The oil of humility will flow afterwards.

At some point, *as they left the upper room, or as they entered the garden - or somewhere in between* - Jesus dropped a bomb on His disciples. Matthew 26:31, “**All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night...**” He quotes Zechariah 13:7, “**I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.**”

I hear the disciples *push back...* “**No way! Not us!**”

Peter pipes up, “**Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.**”

Jesus responds, “**I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.**”

That’s when Peter utters his boast, “**Even if I have to die with You. I will not deny You!**” Matthew, who was there on location, adds, “**And so said all the disciples.**”

No one was willing to admit they might succumb to the fear of the moment. No one asked for the Holy Spirit’s help. They’re all confident of their own courage.

Yet they all prove chicken before the rooster crows.

Whenever I take a trip to Israel and Kathy stays home, she always asks me to bring home one item - *some Israeli virgin olive oil*. Oil from Israel is the best.

Olive oil in Bible times was bottled to anoint Kings, and fuel lamps. It was used to sooth and cleanse.

The oil had varied purposes, but the only way to extract it from the olive was by smashing. The skin was crushed and the fiber pressed into a paste. From there the olive paste was squeezed until it released its oil.

And often what God wants to do in us is only accomplished through *pressure, crushing, squeezing...*

Stay alert and watch in prayer...

Embrace His will regardless of the consequences...

Acknowledge your own limitations and weaknesses...

Realize *His will* is accomplished *His way...*

Don't let the *betrayal of man* erode *faith in God...*

Follow Jesus up-close and personal...

These are all lessons learned that night, and lessons we need to learn as well, but God cooks them up only in the pressure-cooker times of life. Their tuition fee is paid for with *pressing, and suffering, and brokenness.*

The Garden of Gethsemane was probably a private garden. Its owner had given Jesus the key. Anytime He was visiting Jerusalem, Jesus had access to the grove.

Even today there's a private grove across the street from the crowded church. Slip the guard a few shekels and you can enter the quiet that awaited Jesus. It was a secluded spot where He could give Himself to prayer.

Once inside the garden, Jesus tells His disciples to **“Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”** This is always a good starter prayer. It acknowledges we're vulnerable. Like a magnet we're drawn to temptation.

We need God to spark a charge that repels.

Jesus then takes three of His men - Peter, James, and John - and goes a little deeper into the olive grove.

Finally, He tells them to “*watch with Me*” - while He goes deeper still. Realize we’re all followers of Jesus, but some of us go deeper, and some... even deeper.

*And prayer is always the way to deeper.*

Prayer is the spiritual equivalent of standing watch! It’s being at attention. We all like to celebrate and sing praise in a crowd, but can we *stand watch spiritually*, and *shoulder a burden* when no one else is around?

By this point the wooden press has fallen on Jesus.

Matthew tells us, “*He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.*” Dr. Luke notes, “*His sweat became like great drops of blood.*” Jesus is perspiring profusely. His sweat is as thick as blood. He’s being squeezed...

View this scene through the lens of all four Gospels and an interesting picture emerges... **Luke** says Jesus knelt. **Mark** tells us He fell on the ground. **Matthew** records He fell prostrate on His face.. Put it all together and Jesus collapses under the weight of His burden.

He kneels - He buckles - He stretches out facedown.

His crumbling posture represents His breaking heart.

And three times Jesus prays the same agonizing prayer, “*O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.*”

Hebrews 5:8 speaks of Jesus' ordeal in the Garden of Gethsemane. "Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."

Imagine, Jesus, God's Son, had to *learn obedience*.

Realize, obedience is not something you acquire by reading, or recitation, or hearing – *you learn to obey by doing* - by making right choices in strenuous situations.

This is what Jesus did in *the garden of the oil press*.

And this is what you and I learn when we're pressed. We learn to submit to God's will no matter how difficult it might be - no matter how "*against the grain*" it feels...

Understand what was going on the heart of Jesus in the garden. Some folks erroneously assume Jesus is trying to escape the rigors of the cross. "*Let this cup pass from Me*" doesn't mean "*help me skip My duty*."

Jesus was born to die. The wise men brought embalming fluid to His baby shower. He'd been telling His disciples for months that He would be crucified.

John 17:1 refers to the cross as His moment of glory.

I don't believe the Son of God reached the climax of His mission and got cold feet. I believe the cup was the pain that came with the cross - the hurt and betrayal. This is what He hoped He might avoid, *but He didn't...*

Jesus began the night predicting His disciples would stumble... Earlier, He'd sent Judas to do his diabolical deed... In a few hours, His own people, the Hebrews - the nation He came to save - will shout "*Crucify Him...*"



It's one thing to die for people who appreciate Your sacrifice, it's another thing altogether to die for the people who hammer in the nails. I believe Jesus was tempted just as we're tempted when we're hurt – *to stop loving, to choose resentment, to nurse a grudge.*

Several psalms give a voice to Jesus' pain that night.

Psalm 41:9 predicts the Messiah's hurt and rejection, "Even My own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate My bread, has lifted up his heel against Me."

Psalm 55:12, "For it is not an enemy who reproaches Me; then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates Me who has magnified himself against Me; then I could hide from him. But it was you... My companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in the throng." Jesus and Judas walked to the Temple to worship side-by-side.

How would you react if your BBF betrayed you? *A Best Bud Forever sales you out for lunch money?*

Jesus knows the cross is His destiny, but the thought of all that comes with it is harrowing. *If the Father can lighten the load - remove the cup - mitigate the pain...*

But the answer is "no." For sin to be resolved, Jesus will have to absorb the full brunt of our punishment.

He'll need to drink every drop of the painful potion.

Instead of removing the cup... *in the garden, with His Father, through prayer* - Jesus finds the courage to drink not only the physical pain - but the rejection, and betrayal,

and abandonment, and despair. The price of our forgiveness will even cost Him a certain alienation from His own Father. *This makes this cup a stiff drink.*

Jesus could've avoided it all. Later He tells Peter He had authority to call up 12 legions of angels - 72,000.

Jesus could've punched back at the arresting officers, and landed a knock out blow. *But if He had the world would've remained in sin - His Church would've never been born - this world never redeemed...*

Thus, the next day Jesus will taste it all. He'll be wounded by friend and foe alike. His cup will overflow with hurt. *But He accepted that cup the night before.*

On the cross, He'll show amazing *courage*, and *composure*, and *compassion*. But all He displays He gained **under the cover of darkness** - in the oil press.

By the time He's arrested the victory had been won!

*And we win the victory the same way Jesus did!*

We pray and wrestle our will into submission. Then we trust God, and drink whatever His cup might hold.

None of us get to choose the contents of our cup.

His will and our circumstances are dictated by God.

The one thing we know is resentment is not an option. Jesus was called on to love His enemies - even those who minutes earlier had been His friends.

I don't know what's in your cup this AM. Maybe its *marriage problems*, or a *job loss*, or a *friend's betrayal*, or an *ornery co-worker* - maybe something really hard.

All I know is you're called to take that cup and drink it. You're being pressed. It will teach you obedience!

Don't try to escape. Don't opt for a short-cut. Pray for courage, and accept the path God lays out for you.

Oswald Chambers has a quote where he talks about our need to be broken and submitted to God's will...

He writes, "Never object to the fingers He chooses to use to crush us. We say, *"If God would only use His own fingers, and make me broken bread and poured-out wine in a special way, then I wouldn't object!"*

But when He uses someone we dislike, or some set of circumstances to which we said we would never submit, to crush us, then we object. We must never try to choose the place of our own martyrdom." *We accept the squeezing unless it comes from a boss or the wife.*

Jesus will die the next day, but first He died the night before to His own likes and wishes and preferences. He surrendered totally to the will of God - even a cross.

When Jesus returns to His disciples they're asleep. The three amigos are cutting Zs... *This is astonishing...*

This year's Super Bowl went down to the wire, 34-31, it was a good game - *or so I heard!* Guess who slept through the entire fourth quarter? *Yours truly...*

But this was worse. The story of mankind begins in a garden called Eden. Man sins and fumbles the planet over to Satan... In the end, God establishes a new heaven and earth, and restores the garden paradise...

But in between those two gardens, the deciding battle, is also fought in a Garden... called *Gethsemane*.

Jesus is pressed and prays. What happens in this garden decides the salvation of man, and the destiny of the universe... *and the disciples are sawing logs.*

For 3.5 years Jesus has provided for these men, finally He needs their support - yet they're fast asleep.

And Jesus confronts them, **"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."** And this is why we have to learn obedience!

We mean well. Jesus gives us a new nature. But our flesh has to cooperate - *and we get tired, and weak, and distracted...* This is why we have to learn to obey.

We have to teach ourselves to watch, and stay at it, and go deeper, and drink the cup even when its spiked with hardship. Never resent it when you're squeezed.

The disciples were still rubbing the sleep from their eyes when the garden was invaded by storm troopers.

The traitor brought with him a priestly mob with swords and clubs. This was the Temple security force.

They'd all been told to arrest the man Judas greets with a kiss. Matthew 26:49 tells us, **"(Judas) went up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed Him."**

And Jesus replied, **"Friend, why have you come?"**

For years I wondered *why the Jews needed Judas...* They saw Jesus numerous times. They could've pick Him out on their own... *And why a kiss?* Judas could've

pointed... I believe this was Satan's final attempt to embitter the Savior. This is the dagger in Jesus' back.

The kiss was a symbol of friendship. Jesus expected chains, and beatings, and whips, and even crucifixion. *But a kiss?* Betrayed by the greeting of a friend?

Yet Jesus looked Judas right in the eye, and felt nothing but love. He'd already downed the bitter cup, and was ready for whatever might come afterwards...

Through all this, a groggy Peter has been trying to wake up. It's just dawned on him what's happening...

Peter grabs a sword to fight off the Temple goon squad. He swings, and the fellow ducks just in time.

Peter misses parting his hair, but clips off his ear.

It's Dr. Luke that tells us what Jesus did. "He touched his ear and healed him." He reattaches a floppy ear.

Imagine, Jesus' last miracle before the cross was to heal a wound inflicted by an overzealous disciple. And He's had to work the same miracle many times over.

It's been said, "Peter fought the wrong enemy, used the wrong weapon, had the wrong motive, achieved the wrong result." Peter knew nothing of victories won through love and sacrifice. Jesus didn't come to *force our compliance* - but to serve, and *win our allegiance*.

John 18:11 tells us, "Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?'" As Jesus drinks the cup of His Father's will, He orders Peter to put up his sword.

And with that the Lord of Glory was arrested, bound with chains, and led away **under the cover of darkness**.

Matthew 26:56 pours salt in Jesus' wound, "Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled." Notice, "all" forsook Him. The Gospels focus on Peter's denial, but everyone of the other disciples had a similar story.

What happened that night is a microcosm of the world we live in. We live **under the cover of darkness**.

Evil people do evil deeds in the shadows. Their crimes against God and His people are emboldened because of the night. Yet, you and I are called on to drink the cup of God's will - *to love the Judas - to absorb the kiss - to heal our attacker - **to be pressed**...*

In a world gone wrong, we're to do what's right. We're to learn obedience - *whatever that means for us*.

This is the cup we've been given to drink. Jesus' commitment to the will of God never faltered even **under the cover of darkness** - and neither should ours.

The Pharisees were still smarting over Jesus' expose' on their hypocrisy... The chief priests lost money when Jesus cleansed the Temple... The Sanhedrin, the aristocratic Jews, worried that all His talk of a Kingdom would disrupt their fragile partnership with Rome... And the Romans themselves only wanted to insure a quiet, and peaceful, and orderly Passover...

In the end everybody had a reason for why they wanted Jesus dead, but no one wanted to do the deed.

*What charge could they use?* He was innocent. They needed a trial... And six times over the next few hours Jesus will be legally scrutinized by judge and tribunal.

Until I visited Jerusalem I pondered how all this movement could take place in just a few short hours...

From the [Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives](#), east of Jerusalem – to southwest of the city, the [priestly neighborhood of Annas and Caiaphas](#) – to the northeast corner of the Temple Mount and the [Roman Fortress of Antonio](#) - a trip back to the city-center and [King Herod](#) - then back to the [headquarters of Pilate](#).

You assume all the travel would take quite a while.

But one trip to Jerusalem sorts it all out. Today, the entire Old City is less than one square mile. Jerusalem is compact. You can walk in Jesus' footsteps from His arrest to the place of crucifixion in less than an hour. Especially at night when the narrow streets are empty.

Eventually, Jesus ends up before Pontus Pilate, the Roman governor. *But the Jews have to try Him first...*

John 18:13 says that immediately after His arrest Jesus was taken to [Annas](#) - the former High Priest.

At the time the Jewish priesthood was like the Italian mafia. And Annas was the godfather. Out of respect he gets first shot at Jesus... Note, throughout Jesus' tour of Jewish jurisprudence no one is concerned with *His* rights. It's all about trumping up charges to condemn.

Next He's brought to the mansion of [Caiaphas](#), the current High Priest. If the

previous trial was a hearing, a Grand Jury probe... this is a federal prosecution...

Today, you can go to Jerusalem and visit this house.

The basement doubled as a dungeon. It's where they kept the folks who ran afoul with the religious system. Caiaphas had henchmen to rough-up the accused. They mocked and cursed the King of heaven.

Luke says they blindfolded Jesus, then struck Him in the face. God designed the human body with protective instincts that buffer a blow, but reflexes don't work when blindfolded. The abuse ordered by Caiaphas was just the beginning of the physical torture Jesus faced.

Upstairs at Caiaphas' crib the **Sanhedrin** gathered a quorum. This was the 70 member Jewish Supreme Court. It had jurisdiction over the fate of a fellow Jew.

And the Sanhedrin came to this trial loaded for bear. Bogus witnesses - lies, lies, more lies - the goal wasn't justice. It was to impose a death penalty on Jesus.

Over the previous months Jesus had run roughshod over their legalistic sensibilities... He had disregarded the rabbi's interpretations of keeping the Sabbath...

Jesus forgave sins, commuted the adulteress, cast out demons, referred to God as His Father... all were things that only Deity can do! Jesus threatened the Temple, the sacrifices, the cleansing rituals, the kosher laws. His critique dismantled the whole Jewish religion.

The Jews had plenty of beefs with Jesus, but they wanted a charge that would stick and justify a capital sentence... *"Didn't He purport to be the promised King, the Messiah?"* And of course, the only way such a claim would not be a capital offense, is



if it were true.

Don't worry, that possibility was never considered.

Caiaphas cuts right to the chase. He barks at Jesus in Matthew 26:63, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"

The word "*Christ*" means "*Messiah*" or "*chosen One*."

Remember the Jewish thought process... the son of a cow is a cow, the son of a man is a man, that means the son of God is God. He's asking Jesus if He's God...

Mark tells us His explosive answer, "*I am*." Jesus assumes the name God gave Moses, "*I am that I am*."

Earlier in His ministry Jesus muffled this declaration. After raising the dead, and casting out demons - Jesus had commanded the recipient's silence. He didn't want to incite a political push that would crown Him king.

It's only after the crowds have turned their back on Him - and the cross is His immediate destiny - and the only crown planned for His head is a crown of thorns - that Jesus can now embrace the title of "*Messiah*."

Jesus answered Caiaphas, "*And You will see the Son of Man* (an OT term for Messiah) *sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven*." Jesus is saying, "*Today you've judged Me, but one day I'll return, and it's Me who'll judge you!*"

According to Matthew, Mark, and Luke - Caiaphas tore his clothes - shouted "*Blasphemy!*" - and asked for a verdict. The Sanhedrin replied, "*deserving of death*."

It bears noting, how the Gospel writers do a good job of dramatic writing... They whisk from *courtroom* to *courtyard*, from the *trial of Jesus* to *the testing of Peter*.

Matthew 26:58 shifts scenes, “But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest's courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end.”

Three times that night - by the fire outside the house, Peter denied His Lord. The first time in front of a “servant girl.” Here’s the mighty Peter who earlier bragged, “Even if I have to die... I will not deny You!”

Now he chickens out in front of a campfire girl!

*What happened to Pete?* Look again at Matthew 26, “Peter followed Him at a distance.” Refuse to drink His cup, and embrace His will, and a distance develops.

Jesus went deep the night before. He wrestled His feelings into submission, and accepted the will of God.

He gulped down the cup despite its painful contents.

But Peter didn’t think he needed to pray. He was full of self-confidence. He wasn’t vigilant. He slept. “Oh, I’ll catch up.” Peter didn’t even try to stay in step.

But guess who *folds* and who stays *faithful*? I wonder how many folks today follow Jesus, but at a distance?

I like how Vance Havner described his relationship with Jesus, “The Lord had the strength and I had the weakness, so we teamed up! It was an unbeatable combination.” And this is the lesson that Peter learns.

He gets schooled in humility and real faith in God.

Again, Hebrews 5:8, “(Jesus) learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”

He learned to obey when he was pressed and under fire. And what was true for Jesus applied to Peter. In fact, it applies to us!

All this happened **under the cover of darkness**, and as the dawn gets ready to break a rooster splits the silence of the night. Twice it crows... *cock-a-doodle-do!*

One trip to Jerusalem Kathy and I were walking the walls when we heard a rooster. It's an odd sound - you don't hear roosters in the city... *We thought of Peter.*

Matthew 26:75 says when Peter heard the rooster, His failure hit him... **“He went out and wept bitterly.”**

Imagine the guilt, and shame, and regret. A river of tears flowed down his cheeks. *How do you recover?*

Judas never recovered. Essentially, he and Peter committed the same sin, expressed the same remorse.

Judas threw down the blood money. He tried to give back his 30 pieces of silver and undo what he did.

But he couldn't, so He went and hung himself.

Today, we name churches, cities, universities, and our sons... **“Peter.”** While the name **“Judas”** is shunned.

What was the difference between *Peter* and *Judas*?

One word, **“repentance.”** Sin isn't something you can undo and avoid. Rather than *undo it, you own it.*

You take responsibility for sin and its consequences, and start from there to live a different life. When Judas couldn't undo what he'd done he took the easy way out. *Peter too was crushed, but he learned obedience.*

How do we put a wrap on all that transpired from Gethsemane to Gabbatha? Let me try... It all happened **under the cover of darkness**. It was dark in more ways than one. *And much of our lives are lived in darkness.*

We get betrayed, and forsaken, and hurt, and falsely accused, and God keeps us in the pressure cooker so we can learn to obey. *We accept that cup or reject it?*

You can embrace God's will and follow close, or let a distance grow between you and God. At first you won't detect it, then one day you'll deny you even know Him.

Last week's take home was *love people to the end*. Even when you're rejected, never give up on love!

The word this week is accept the contents of the cup God has for you to drink... remain in the pressure-cooker of His will... follow close... and learn obedience!

*In Jesus name... Amen!*