



SERIES: John Believe
SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD
Thursday, March 9, 2023
Scripture: John 12:27-30
TITLE: Jesus was Disturbed

Have you ever wanted to back out of a hard situation or coming event? It may sound trivial, and it is, but on a family vacation, I tried to back out of a ride. At Hollywood Studios, my family wanted to experience the Tower of Terror. It's a drop ride in an elevator that falls 13 stories and can drop you multiple times. I hate it. So every minute leading up to it, I dread it. I tried to get out of it.

Did you know that Jesus had His own sense of dread as His excruciating moment was coming? It's true. Listen to Jesus' heart in John 12:27-30.

"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him. Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine."

At this point, Jesus' public ministry is over. It's led to this moment. He's in Jerusalem, and His time is coming to die. This moment was prophesied all the way back in Genesis 3. When mankind fell into sin, a promise was made that a savior would come and defeat sin. And here it is approaching.

But many people discount Jesus' humanity. I mean, He was God, right. But as Philippians 2 says, Jesus emptied himself. How so? Paul says in Philippians 2:7-8

...by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Jesus was fully God and fully man. The dread of the cruelest form of punishment was almost too much to bear. John captures Jesus' words. "Now is my soul troubled." "Troubled" literally means to be stirred up or shaken. Jesus' core was shaken to the point of being upset, disturbed, or horrified. And it's in the perfect tense, which means this feeling of dread is ongoing.

What I felt before my drop on that ride was nothing compared to the dread and reality of being flogged, whipped, beaten, mocked, and nailed to a cross to suffer and die.

Jesus knew it was the only option to save us from our sins. So, Jesus acknowledges that this is why He came. He will do it and glorify God.

Amazingly, God calls out from heaven that Jesus has glorified His name through His perfect life on earth and will glorify it again through His death.

My encouragement for you today is to remember how much Jesus loves you. If you're a Christian, remember Jesus did the unthinkable. He gave his life for you. You were His enemy, but because of His love for you, He went to the cross and died. He loved you that much.

If you're not a Christian, know that Jesus loves you. He offers you peace with God and forgiveness of all your sins. All you have to do is believe. To think that the God of the universe knows you and is offering you the free gift of salvation is unlike any other gift you could receive.

Turn from your sin and turn to Jesus. He loves you. Will you love Him?