

Matthew 26:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

Analysis

When they had sung an hymn (ὕμνήσαντες, hymnēsantes)—This was the Hallel (Psalms 113-118), the traditional Passover conclusion. Imagine Jesus singing Psalm 118:22-24: **The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone... This is the day which the LORD hath made**—prophesying His rejection and resurrection while walking toward Gethsemane.

They went out into the mount of Olives—Leaving Jerusalem's walls violated Passover law (Exodus 12:22), signaling the old order's end. The Mount of Olives, where Messiah would appear (Zechariah 14:4), becomes the stage for Christ's agonizing prayer and arrest. Jesus moves deliberately toward His 'hour.'

Historical Context

The Hallel hymns (Psalms 113-118) were divided: Psalms 113-114 before the meal, 115-118 after. Psalm 118 climaxes with messianic triumph and the 'stone the builders rejected.' Jesus and the disciples would have sung these powerful words on their way to His betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does singing Psalms 113-118 before Gethsemane demonstrate worship amid suffering?
2. What does Jesus's deliberate movement toward the Mount of Olives teach about embracing God's will?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ	ὕμνησαντες	ἐξῆλθον	εἰς	τὸ	ὄρος	τῶν
And	when they had sung an hymn	they went out	into	G3588	the mount	G3588
G2532	G5214	G1831	G1519		G3735	
Ἐλαιῶν						
of Olives						
G1636						

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 21:1 (Parallel theme): And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,

Luke 22:39 (Parallel theme): And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.