

# Matthew 26:42

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

## Analysis

**He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done**

(πάλιν ἐκ δευτέρου ἀπελθὼν προσηύξατο λέγων, Πάτερ μου, εἰ οὐ δύναται τοῦτο παρελθεῖν ἐὰν μὴ αὐτὸ πῖω, γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου)—The second prayer shows progression from 'if possible, let this cup pass' (26:39) to 'if it cannot pass unless I drink it, Your will be done.' The conditional εἰ οὐ δύναται παρελθεῖν ἐὰν μὴ αὐτὸ πῖω ('if this cannot pass unless I drink it') acknowledges the necessity of the cross for salvation. The Father's silence to the first prayer answered it—the cup could not pass; atonement required Christ's drinking judgment's full measure.

**Thy will be done** (γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου)—The aorist imperative γίνομαι expresses submission: 'Let Your will happen.' This echoes the Lord's Prayer (6:10) but now Jesus personally embraces the costly will He taught others to pray. Here is the incarnate Son's voluntary submission to the Father's redemptive plan. The agony reveals the cost; the submission reveals the love. Christ's humanity recoiled from sin-bearing; His deity resolved to accomplish it.

## Historical Context

This occurred in Gethsemane ('oil press'), an olive grove on the Mount of Olives east of Jerusalem, Thursday night before crucifixion. Jesus took Peter, James, and John deeper into the garden (26:37) while He prayed alone. The progression

through three prayers shows increasing resignation to the Father's will. Luke 22:44 notes His sweat 'like great drops of blood'—possibly hematidrosis, where extreme stress causes blood to mix with sweat. The garden represents the Second Adam's obedience contrasted with Eden's First Adam's disobedience.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus's progression from 'if possible' to 'Your will be done' model wrestling with God's hard will while ultimately submitting?
2. What does Christ's costly submission to the Father's will teach about the price of your redemption?

## Interlinear Text

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πάλιν	ἐκ	δευτέρου	ἀπελθὼν	προσηύξατο	λέγων,	Πάτερ	
again	the	second time	He went away	and prayed	saying	Father	
G3825	G1537	G1208	G565	G4336	G3004	G3962	
μου	εἰ	οὐ	δύναται	τοῦτο	τὸ ποτήριον	παρελθεῖν	ἀπ'
O my	if	not	may	this	G3588 cup	pass away	from
G3450	G1487	G3756	G1410	G5124	G4221	G3928	G575
ἐμοῦ,	ἐὰν	μὴ	αὐτὸ	πίω	γενηθήτω	τὸ θέλημά	σου
me	G1437	G3361	it	I drink	be done	G3588 will	thy
G1700			G846	G4095	G1096	G2307	G4675

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 26:39** (Prayer): And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

**Hebrews 4:15** (Parallel theme): For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

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