

If Christ was truly a man, how could He truly be God? If God really came to the earth as a man, why did He need to pray and communicate with God on a regular basis? Men have been wrestling with these questions since the beginning of Christianity. Why did Christ have to wrestle with his emotions if he already knew the final outcome?

The Bible says that the Messiah was a “Man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering”. It also teaches that “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found on his mouth. When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.” 1 Peter 2:22-23 These verses seem to suggest that it was easy for Jesus. His mind was made up. He would take whatever the world would throw at him.

Yet, we also learn from Hebrews 5:7 that he offered up prayers and petitions *with loud cries and tears* to the one who could save him from death. There definitely was a battle going on. Between life and death, between fighting for survival, and submitting to death. In his humanity, Jesus had to wrestle with giving up control of his own body.

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it only remains a single seed. Jesus had to die to bring the many believers to a relationship with him. He set aside his innate will to fight for survival, in order to lay down his life for the sins of the world.

From the beginning, Jesus did not come to do his own will, but the will of the Father. He kept his eyes focused on the prize. And he was able to join the great cloud of witnesses who will also be waiting for us when we arrive in heaven.

Final Hour

Patricia W. Felker (ASCAP)

*"He offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death."
Hebrews 5:7*

**O, please, my Father, please
Take this cup away from me
Sorrow multiplies in me
Comfort me in time of need
Shelter me, strengthen me
Help me now to do Your will
Heaven's waiting
Don't forsake me
Keep my eyes upon the goal
Send Your angels here
When I face my final hour
Guide me with Your Spirit's power
To finally give my all
Give my all to You**

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