

**Biblical Idea:** The **suffering** of the Servant caught Jesus' disciples off guard until the **resurrection** regathering for mission.

**Introduction Image: Washington Delaware (12/25-26/1776)**

**Need:** Watchful fellowship

**Subject:** The Servant's suffering

**Purpose:** To accept the invitation

**Structure the Text:**

- The eschatological weight of the **moment** uncovered the need of the disciples (14:27–31; cf. Zech. 13:7).
  - Jesus gave a prophetic warning of exilic and eschatological character following the supper.
    - The disciples would allow themselves to fall away from Jesus (permissive passive, not terminal).
    - Jesus connected their fall to “the day” in Zechariah 13 (Illustrative/recapitulating? See Marcus 971–73, France 575–76).
    - Peter represented emphatic loyalty of the disciples (14:29; cf. 8:29–33; 9:5–6; 10:28; 11:21).
- The Servant began to **carry** the weight of his suffering with three episodes of invitation to watchful fellowship (14:32–42; cf. Ps. 42:5, 11; 43:5).
  - Episode one revealed the great **burden** of the Servant (vv. 32–38).
  - Episode two explained the **burden** of the disciples (39–40).
  - Episode three contrasted the **destiny** of the Servant and the **drowsiness** of the disciples (40–41).

**Purpose Bridge:** To fellowship in God's great **burden** (hour, cup)—the mission and glory of His Son.

**Theological Tension:** The natures of the spirit and the flesh **oppose** one another in suffering's temptation. (Marcus, 979, 987–88, France, 587)

**Theological Truth:** Disciples require the Spirit of Christ for **watchful** fellowship in God's great burden.

**Appalachia:** The chasm between our weakness and willingness confronts our Appalachian value of self-reliance.

**Today's Message:** *Don't Sleep on Suffering's Significance.*

**Make It Personal:** 5 Watchful Ways

- Replace (self)**prevention** and (self)relief with fellowship (14:27–31).
- Drowsy fleshiness requires the **generous** willingness of the Holy Spirit (14:38; cf. Rom. 8:26–29).
- Be mindful of **existing** burdens when committing to share another's burden in prayer (14:32–40).
- Rejoice in the suffering Servant's **sufficiency** (14:41–42).
- Hope in the **Shepherd's** resurrection regathering (14:27–28).

**Conclusion: Washington Delaware (12/25-26/1776) – 1,400 Hessian Troops at a garrison in Trenton, NJ, 11 PM, 3 crossings, ice!**