

THE CUP AND THE CROSS

Jesus dies.

Every step from the Garden of Gethsemane to the cross was optional. The Father would never force Jesus to undergo any of it. For it to be effectual, it had to be Jesus's choice. Jesus chose to be obedient – to love the Father and trust in the Father's love – through suffering, injustice, humiliation and death. Only when He had fulfilled all the Scriptures did He choose to take His last breath and give His soul to God. Jesus, the second Adam, did what the first did not. He followed God's direction about a life and death tree.

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.