

## THE LORD'S PRAYERS

### I. PRAYS FOR BELIEVERS' FAITH NOT TO FAIL

#### **LUKE 22: 31-34**

(ESV) <sup>31</sup>"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you,<sup>[a]</sup> that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup>but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup>Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me."

Vs. 31 The Greek word for you (twice in this verse) is plural; in verse 32, all four instances are singular

(NIV) <sup>31</sup> "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup> But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

### JESUS and THE HOLY SPIRIT PRAY FOR ME

#### **Hebrews 7:25**

(ESV) <sup>25</sup>Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost<sup>[a]</sup> those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Footnotes: That is, completely; or at all times

(NIV) <sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able to save completely<sup>[a]</sup> those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. (a, Or forever)

#### **Romans 8:26-27**

(ESV) <sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(NIV) <sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

Jesus used Peter's "old name", then his "new name" – Satan sifts us to make our Old Man dominate our New Man. Satan also had to get God's permission to "sift" JOB. God set limits. [Edersheim, II: 535]

#### **JESUS DID NOT PRAY:**

1. For Peter to have **more** faith or to **add something else to faith**. Peter had enough faith and faith was enough!

2. That the trial of sifting **be removed**

#### **COMFORT (with conditions)**

Even willful sins do not imply the failure or our faith; we are not rejected for sins—Jesus assured Peter of his eventual forgiveness & restoration & return to ministry.

Peter did not need strong faith to not deny Jesus. He needed strong faith to allow him 1) to accept that he was forgiven and 2) that he was restored and could be used in God's kingdom. *Guilt is the thief that robs us of joy, peace, hope, and fruitfulness.*

#### **CONDEMNATION**

Why did Jesus not pray for Judas? Judas had no faith to be sifted or to survive and be strengthened.

Weren't all the disciples being sifted? Why is Peter singled out?

*This passage is one basis for the Roman Catholic doctrine of the supremacy of Peter as head of the Church.*

Jesus and the Holy Spirit only pray on behalf of believers. Jesus' "intercession" for non-believers is **the cross**—His death on their behalf.

## II. JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE LUKE 22: 39-46; MATT 26: 36-45; MARK 14: 32-42

**LUKE 22: 39-46** (ESV) <sup>39</sup> And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." <sup>41</sup> And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup> saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." <sup>43</sup> And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. <sup>44</sup> And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>45</sup> And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

(NIV) <sup>41</sup> He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup> "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." <sup>43</sup> An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. <sup>44</sup> And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>45</sup> When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. <sup>46</sup> "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."

*Many early manuscripts do not have verses 43 and 44.*

### **Matthew 26:36-45**

(ESV) <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup> And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch<sup>[a]</sup> with me." <sup>39</sup> And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." <sup>40</sup> And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup> Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." <sup>43</sup> And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying

Gethsemane means "Oil press".

Luke's account is the briefest. He doesn't tell about Peter, James, and John going further into the garden. He does include 3 details that Matthew & Mark omit. **1)** vs. 39 "as was his custom". Jesus' habit of praying was predictable—that's how Judas knew where to find Jesus to betray Him. **2)** an angel from heaven appeared to strengthen Jesus [*read Psalm 91 to see how angels guard us.*] **3)** Jesus' agony was so intense that His sweat became like great drops of blood falling on the ground.

Matthew and Mark describe 3 distinct periods of prayer. Jesus is closing His mission on earth just as he began it—with 3 temptations. Matt. 4: 1-11; Mark 1: 12-12; and Luke 4: 1-13 tell of Satan tempting Jesus 3 times at the beginning of His ministry—all 3 were attempts to get Jesus to act on His own. In the first 3, Christ resisted temptations to act contrary to God's **word**; in the last 3, He resisted temptations to act contrary to God's **will**.

In the garden, Jesus was tempted 3 times to act outside the will of God. In both episodes, Jesus submitted His human nature and desires to the will of the Father.

Some people interpret the "cup" to mean the crucifixion experience. More likely it is the period of darkness during the crucifixion in which Jesus would be separated from the Father for the only time in His eternal existence—bearing the darkness of all the sins of me, you, and every human who ever lived. *I hold the latter view.*

the same words again. <sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. <sup>[b]</sup> See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Footnotes:

- a. [Matthew 26:38](#) Or keep awake; also verses 40, 41
- b. [Matthew 26:45](#) Or Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?

### **(NIV) Matthew 26:36-45**

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup> He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." <sup>39</sup> Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." <sup>40</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. <sup>41</sup> "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup> He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." <sup>43</sup> When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. <sup>45</sup> Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.

### **Mark 14:32-42**

**(ESV)** <sup>32</sup> And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup> And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>35</sup> And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup> And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." <sup>37</sup> And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour?" <sup>38</sup> Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup> And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup> And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. <sup>41</sup> And he came the

This passage is comforting and encouraging. It clearly shows that Jesus dreaded something that God the Father wanted Him to experience. I, too, dread or want to avoid some of the things God has brought into my life. I haven't taken a survey, but I suspect that all Christians have had a situation in their lives that they wanted to escape—to let it pass from them: health issues, loss of a dear loved one, economic problems, separation from family to serve in a mission field, break-up of family, and countless other "cups" that we as humans don't want to drink. It comforts me to know that Jesus felt the same way—**He was tempted in all the ways that we are tempted.** Being tempted is not a sin!! If wanting to have a situation "pass from" you is a sin, then Jesus was a sinner, and He could not be my Savior. But Jesus resisted the temptation to act outside God's will.

Matthew and Mark use the same word for Jesus being "sorrowful". The Greek word means "utter loneliness, desertion and desolation." Most of us have probably felt that way at some time. But believers have the assurance that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are with us, praying for us, and also that God has given angels "charge over us" (Psalm 91).

third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

Footnotes: [Mark 14:34](#) Or keep awake; also verses 37, 38

**(NIV)** <sup>32</sup> They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup> He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup> "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch." <sup>35</sup> Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup> "Abba, <sup>[a]</sup> Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." <sup>37</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? <sup>38</sup> Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup> Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. <sup>40</sup> When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. <sup>41</sup> Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup> Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Footnotes: [Mark 14:36](#) Aramaic for father

### III. THE LORD'S PRAYER

John 17

### The High Priestly Prayer

(ESV)

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth, **having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.** <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. <sup>8</sup>For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>**I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.**

<sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

<sup>13</sup>But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

<sup>14</sup> I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup>I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them <sup>[b]</sup> in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

<sup>19</sup>And for their sake I consecrate myself, <sup>[c]</sup> that they also may be sanctified <sup>[d]</sup> in truth.

<sup>20</sup>"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup>Father, I desire that

Jesus was not eligible to be a priest, and certainly not the High Priest, according to the Law of Moses. Only men of the family of Levi could hold that position. Jesus is our High Priest "after the order of Melchizedek" who lived at the time of Abraham, long before the Law was implemented. *Hebrews 4: 14 -- 5: 10.*

**Only John records this prayer**, spoken by Jesus while still in the Upper Room before going to Gethsemane. *All witnesses to a major event do not see it the same way—see different details, viewpoints, etc.* John focuses on the deity and glory of Jesus. Jn 1: 1-5, 14; and 14: 1-14 (vs. 7 9-11)

LAST GOSPEL WRITTEN

Mark, 50s AD

Luke, 60 AD

Matthew, 60s AD

John, 85-90. Could have been 25 years since Matthew's gospel was produced. John likely had read other accounts, including many that are not in the canon of scripture. God inspired John to give a different type of record of Christ. Roman emperor worship was being fully implemented and the deity of Christ was being challenged as never before.

Jesus considered his work "accomplished", though He still had to be crucified and resurrected. This statement sheds light on Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane—that the cup he did not want to drink was the period of separation from the Father.

they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.  
<sup>25</sup> O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me.  
<sup>26</sup> I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

- a. 15, Or from evil
- b. 17, Greek Set them apart (for holy service to God)
- c. 19, Or I sanctify myself; or I set myself apart (for holy service to God). Greek, may be set apart (for holy service to God)

### (NIV) John 17 Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup> For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup> Now **this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.** <sup>4</sup> I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with **the glory I had with you before the world began.**

### Jesus Prays for His Disciples

<sup>6</sup> "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; **you gave them to me** and they have obeyed your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup> For **I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them.** They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> **I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.** <sup>10</sup> All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. **And glory has come to me through them.** <sup>11</sup> I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name

Vs. 1 & 4 *DOXAZŌ*, Glorify, to reveal and manifest all that God is and has; self-revelation; to do honor  
*DOXA* = glory  
*KAUCHAOMI*, glory. Boasting, Eph. 2:9

**Eternal life** is not an experience—it's a relationship! **Knowing God and Jesus.** Eph. 3: 14-21 is about knowing God. Do you "know" them or only "know about" them?

Vs 5 Jesus claims eternity, *see John 1.*

John 10: 27-30 God gave us to Jesus, we are in His hand and the Father's hand. ***Have you thought of yourself as God's gift to Christ? How could this affect how you feel about yourself?***

KNOWING COMES THROUGH SCRIPTURE. Anyone who denies the truths of scripture is not a believer, has not been given to Christ, does not have eternal life. Personal experience is valid only if it reinforces scripture. **"Who is Jesus?"** is key question. *see, John 1: 1-5, 14; 8: 19; 10: 30*

JESUS ONLY PRAYS FOR BELIEVERS! He **died** on the cross for unbelievers!

Jesus claimed to be eternal, same as the Father, fully God.

Vs. 10 *see note on Vs 22.* Is my life revealing and manifesting all that God is?

you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. <sup>14</sup> I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. <sup>15</sup> My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. <sup>17</sup> **Sanctify** them by the truth; **your word is truth.** <sup>18</sup> As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

### Jesus Prays for All Believers

<sup>20</sup> “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> **I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one.**

<sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. <sup>24</sup>

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

<sup>25</sup> “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

**Sanctify:** GREEK, **separate**. Are we separate from the world? What part of us is not sanctified?

John 8: 31-32. “. . .if you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” **Anything that contradicts God’s word is not truth.** However, while all the Bible is true, scripture is given for spiritual life; so **everything** that is “truth” is not in the Bible. For example, so many of the Bible’s “facts” about geography have been validated that we can expect the remaining geographic items to also be valid. But the Bible says nothing at all about the Mississippi River, North America, Hawaii, etc. Such facts do not contradict God’s word; they just don’t fit into the spiritual message.

Vs. 22 “the glory” see John 15: 8 **“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit,** showing yourselves to be my disciples.” What fruit are we supposed to bear? **Gal. 5: 22-23, “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” THIS IS THE CHARACTER / NATURE OF CHRIST. We are to be “little Christ’s” = Christians.**

If we are bearing the fruit of the Spirit, how would it impact our personal lives? [individual, family, work, neighbor, **shopper {what you purchase, how you behave in the store &c.}**, etc] Our local congregation? The Bride of Christ, the church universal?

If we are displaying the glory of God the Father, which He gave to Jesus, we will be light and salt in the world. We will be one.