

Your Sword or His Cup?

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-4 Dan: Father/Son. Married Couples. Children's.
- B. Slide5 Outreach Opp: Hope Pak's.
- C. Slide6 Mother's Day in 2 Sunday's: fhfg
- D. Slide7 Pray At The Pole: Nat Day of Prayer. 12-12:30pm this Thurs.
- E. Slide8 Jude Robert Bell: Fri morn.

II. Slide9 Intro: Your Sword or His Cup?

A. Slide10 God's Best Gifts Are Not Things *but* Opportunities

1. *What we call adversity, God calls opportunity.* Warren Wiersbe ~ *Peter missed many important opportunities...*
 - a) Peter **boasted** when he should have **listened** (32-35)
 - b) Peter **slept** when he should have **prayed** (36-46)
 - c) Peter **fought** when he should have **surrendered** (47-56)
 - d) Peter **followed** when he should have **fled for safety** (57-75)
2. **But**, when the opportunity came to **repent**, **he wept**.

III. Slide11 PROPHECY OF JESUS (31-35) *Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution*

A. Slide12 *I Will Never... Famous Last Words*

B. (33) **I will not stumble/fall away** – Peter, drunk with pride. *Carnal self-confidence.*

C. Peter did not know how **weak he was**. (Pete leaning in, whispering to Jesus) *"I wouldn't be surprised at the rest of these guys, but I'd never do that."*

1. Had he forgotten the **traps** that **life can lay** for even the best of men?
2. Had he forgotten that the best can **slip**?
3. Had he forgotten his own **human weakness**?
4. Had he forgotten the **traps** that **life can throw at us**?
5. Had he forgotten the **strength** of the **devil's temptations**?

6. Peter seemed to have a problem with applying Jesus' commands *to himself*.

a) Do **you** ever have a problem w/personal application?

(1) Ever **run away** from a situation because of your Christianity? Ever **deny** Jesus by not standing up for right & wrong...before friends, in conversations?

D. *But don't miss the integrity of Peter, having **Mark** write down his embarrassing words :)

E. (35) **I will not deny You** – Instead of humbly praying, *Lord, help me!* Peter kept on asserting *the more vehemently*.

F. Peter was not the only 1 with pride & boasting self-confidence...*they all said likewise*.

1. They were all **pathetically unaware** of their *inner weakness*.

2. Do you **empathize** or **fail to empathize** w/Peter's declarations?

a) Let's remember, **I'm not ok & you're not ok, but Jesus** can fix us both.

3. **Peter loved Jesus**, & even if his *loved failed*, **it rose again**.

IV. Slide13 **PRAYER OF JESUS (36-46)** *Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution*

A. Slide14 **I Come To The Garden Alone...Kinda!**

B. (36) **History started in a Garden** (Eden). **History will end 1 day in a Garden** (Heaven's Main St).

1. *In between* we find **Jesus in this Garden**, the **Garden of Gethsemane**.

a) **In the 1st Garden**, we have the 1st Adam & it became a Garden of **disobedience & sin**

b) **In Gethsemane** we have the last Adam & it became a Garden of **obedience/submission**

C. *Here is a passage we almost *fear to read*, for it seems to **intrude** into the **private agony** of Jesus.

1. **Weird**, the 10 are asked to stay back, but you & I, **WE** are invited in.

D. **Gethsemane** – *oil press*. [A press for *squeezing* the oil out of olive pits]

1. **Used for cooking, as hairdressing, as a salve, & for fuel** in their *lamps*.

E. (38) **Even to death** - this burden is **killing** me, is **crushing** the life out of me.

1. He **wasn't** cringing in the face of **physical death**, **instead** He was dreading the moment when His Father's face would be turned away from him.

a) The One who had lived every moment of His life **in fellowship w/God the Father**, was about to experience *total separation*.

2. *I don't know what being disfellowshipped by God feels like...but be assured... every soul in hell does!*
3. Jesus' prayers reveal the **conflict** in **His holy soul** as He faced bearing the sins of the world on the cross.

F. Slide15 God On His Face

G. (39) This comes against the traditional picture of Jesus *on 1 knee, hands reverently folded, leaning against a rock, & gazing off into the distance w/a warm glow about Him.*

1. God was *on His Face*...what a sight.
2. *As much as His Human nature shrank from the cup, still more did He shrink from any thought of acting contrary to His Fathers will. [but as You will]*

H. *Nevertheless* - The most wonderful *nevertheless* in the bible.

I. Slide16a Cup Of S.W.C.

J. (39) *This cup* – a metaphor for His death. Staring into the cup He must drink, seeing/ swirling all sins. *His own Caster oil. What was in this cup?*

1. *A cup of Sin* – a cup brimming full of *jealousy, hatred, & covetousness*...which He must drink.
2. *A cup of Wrath* – as sin-bearer, He became the object of the Father's holy **wrath** against sin.
 - a) *Salvation isn't addition or subtraction, its substitution.*
3. *A cup of Curse* - Gal.3:13 *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law.*
 - a) *Slide16b* Jesus would drink the **entire** chalice of: **Man's sin & God's wrath & the Law's curse.** *He drank it all.* [Cup of S.W.C. ~ Sin, Wrath, Curse]

K. Slide17a Super Pete

L. (40) It was bad enough James & John were sleeping...*but Super Pete?* Note He singles out *Peter*. [Mark says he used his old name *Simon*]

1. *Simon, you'll go to your death w/me, but you won't stay awake & pray w/me?*

2. The same Simon who fell asleep **3 times**, will also deny Him the **same #**.
 [Know Simon's sleep #, on his sleep # bed? #3] Slide17b
- M. Slide18 Denial, *If only 3 were the limit*. Michael Belk, Fashion Photogr, JourneyswiththeMessiah.org
- N. (41) Watch & pray – Or, **be alert** as you pray. [Keep your spiritual eyes open, for the enemy is near]
- O. Slide19 Lest **YOU** Enter Into Temptation
- P. Lest **you** enter into temptation – Jesus sought prayer, **not** for himself, **but** for **them**.
1. Jesus wasn't **pouting**, "*hey, you guys weren't there for Me.*" **But** instead was **pleading**, "*you don't realize the results if you're not prayed up.*"
 2. What temptations were they about to face? The temptation to **doubt, scatter, deny** Him. The temptation to lose **faith, lose trust, lose hope**.
 3. Wouldn't their outcome have been different if they would have **prayed** for the hour? ~ *Wouldn't ours?*
 - a) **Ask your will**, "**will**, are you ready to pray for an hour?" ~ When it replies, **yes...** Then link arms with **your will**. And know, that *traitorous emotions* will begin kicking & screaming; biting, fighting. **It will** be a weary wrestle with contrary emotions, truant imaginations, even your smart phone calendar...screaming for attention. **Some emotions** will come with clenched jaw, **others** with a velvety voice; both seeking the same, one thing...*your distraction*.
- Q. At least he recognizes their **spirit was willing**. Is my spirit even willing? **Or**, is it also weak?
- R. Slide20 **Enduro** (*endurance*)
- S. (42) **Wow**, Jesus praying the same prayer?...I guess he does want us to pray *sometimes more than once* for the same petition.
- T. Was Jesus Prayers heard? – Luke tells us that in Gethsemane, before the 3rd prayer, an angel was sent to strengthen Him.
1. Thus the Father answered, **not by taking away** the cup; **but by** helping Him to **endure** the cup.
 - a) Brothers & sisters will He respond to **your prayers** any different?
- U. (45) **The hour** – the hour for His betrayal, the hour for trial, & the hour for crucifixion.

V. **Slide21** (46) How do we deal with our own Gethsemane's? **A:** Exactly how Jesus dealt with His. **Q:** *How was that?*

1. **With Dependent prayer** – All things are possible for You (Mk14:36)
 - a) 100% Dependence upon God/Him alone.
2. **With Intense prayer** – sorrowful & deeply distressed (37,38)
3. **With Honest prayer** – let this cup pass from Me (39)
4. **With a Submissive prayer/heart** – Nevertheless... (39)
5. **With Intimate prayer** – Oh My Father (39)
6. **With a Surrendered prayer/heart** – Not as I will, but as You will (39)
 - a) Often times, dependent prayer **won't** deliver us **from** our Gethsemane's, **more often** it delivers us **through** them.

V. **Slide22 PERSECUTION OF JESUS (47-56)** *Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution*

A. **Slide23 The Bottom Of The Top** (12)

B. (47) **Judas, one of the twelve** (43) – Which made the crime more *heinous*.

1. Judas, **Seller of the Savior. Turning in Jesus.**
2. The one who would commit *suicide*, 1st commits *homicide* & attempts *deicide* (an attempt on the life of **God...if that were possible**).

C. (48) **A signal** – *Why?*

1. Very dark. Moonlight & torches were the only light. All would be dressed very similar. Most likely all would have long hair, facial hair, & speak a similar dialect. **So**, a signal was needed.

D. **Slide24a Seal It With A Kiss** ~ Kiss of death. The most infamous kiss of all time.

E. Prov.27:6 **Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.**

F. Imagine *the personal hurt* to Jesus to have Judas betray Him.

1. Judas had been **hand picked**. He was one of Jesus' **closest friends**. He had been given the **special responsibility** of being **treasurer** for the entire band of disciples.

2. Maybe you have been betrayed by...

- a) A spouse? A friend who gossiped away your reputation? A family member? A coworker who took credit for your work? A company who fired you just before retirement? A business partner who persistently shoved you aside?

Then you understand *something* of the *emotional suffering* Jesus went through.

G. Slide24b (49) Kissed Him – (καταφιλέω) In the NT we have *phileo*, to kiss, to be friendly, BUT HERE *kataphileo*, to kiss thoroughly, to be very friendly.

1. The **kata** makes it **intensive**, indicating a prolonged kissing.
2. Same word is used of the **woman** who kissed the feet of **Christ**;
Same word used of the **father's** greeting of the returning **prodigal**;
Same word used of the the **Ephesian Christians** farewell to **Paul**.
3. The betraying Judas kiss, the *grimmest/most awful* thing in the entire gospel story.
 - a) **Judas' kiss** showed how **low** a human heart could go; **Jesus' response** showed how **high** a heart could soar. Kent Hughes ~ *Friend, why have you come?*

H. Slide25a The EAR Of Grace

I. (51) This was probably just too much for Peter to stand there & take. So, he severs the right ear of *Malchus*, the High priests servant.

1. **But**, Jesus offers **no resistance** to His arrest, & doesn't want any well-meaning interventions on His behalf.
 - a) We must learn to never fight **spiritual** battles w/**physical** weapons.
 - (1) 2 Cor.10:3,4^{NIV} For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
2. **Had Jesus not healed Malchus**, Peter would have been arrested as well; & there might have been **4 crosses on Calvary**.
 - a) **And if 4 crosses on Calvary...**then no sermon after Pentecost by Peter where 3000 get saved; nor 5000 following that. **Nor** all the stories in the 1st 5 chapters of Acts.
 - b) **And what if Peter succeeded?** He would have kept Jesus from going to the cross???

(1) How easy it is to be *out of step w/Jesus* when we think we are **servicing** Him, even **defending** Him.

J. Slide25b We don't **fight** for His kingdom. *We sacrifice. We suffer. We surrender for His kingdom*

K. Jesus' last miracle. The most beautiful & touching of all.

1. He kept the best wine, *the best miracle*, until the last.

2. Jesus great text was in *Mt.5:43-45*. Now, His great illustration of that text.

a) *You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. He practiced what He preached*

L. Jesus' **Grace** shined through, not only with the **ear** that night, *but...*

1. *When He walked toward Gethsemane, knowing Judas was betraying Him.*

2. *When He went into Gethsemane, surrendered to the Father's will.*

3. *When He protected His disciples. (He told them to let them go in John's gospel)*

4. *When He yielded Himself into the hands of sinners, that He might suffer/die for us*

M. Slide26a **Your Sword or His Cup?**

N. Peter made every mistake possible (51)

1. He fought the **wrong enemy**. He used the **wrong weapon**. He had the **wrong motive**. *And...He accomplished the wrong result.*

2. He simply imitated the officers who came to arrest Jesus. And in so doing He was openly **resisting** the will of God **and hindering** the work that Jesus came to accomplish.

a) *How did he get to this place?...from his prayerlessness.*

O. Slide26b **Peter's Result of Prayerlessness** (51)

1. We see why it was specifically important for **Peter** to be praying.

a) Because when his crisis came, he reached for the *wrong sword*.

b) *Simon Peter did damage to another human being, which is characteristic of people who are not prayed up.*

(1) We become *hateful or hurtful, bitter or ugly* in our relationship with others in our dealings with them.

P. Slide26c Jesus' Result of Prayer (52)

1. This passage begins with Jesus on His **face**; ends with Him on His **feet**.
2. This passage begins with Jesus humanity wanting to **give up**; ends w/Him ready to **get started**.
3. This passage begins with Jesus wanting to **walk away**; ends with Him ready for **the confrontation**. - He is reenergized.
 - a) He is reenergized ~ Is.40:31 *But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength.*

Q. (54) Peter took up a sword, but Jesus took a cup.

1. Never fear the cup that the Father has prepared for you.
2. Jesus, how did you do it? ~ He could **submit** to the abuse of men because He had **already submitted** to the will of God.

R. What is in your hand today...your sword, or His cup?