

The Gethsemane Sermonette

Overcoming Sin and Self

Matthew 26:36-46

Introduction:

- Have you ever fell asleep driving a car or listening to a sermon?
- Three apostles fell asleep on Jesus.
 1. Jesus gave them a mini-sermon concerning temptation and overcoming sin and self.
 2. There are three actions Jesus wants all His followers to do when facing temptation.

P_____ - f_____ on what God wants, not what you want (37-40)

- Jesus was conflicted in His s_____ (refers to the part of us that thinks, feels, and wills).
 1. He prayed – *If it is possible, let this cup pass from Me.*
 - a. This was NOT a prayer for God to c_____ His plan of salvation.
 - 1) Jesus previously taught that His d_____ was a necessity (Matt 20:18,28; 26:2,12).
 - 2) Jesus said that He would not pray for God to s_____ Him from the hour of death (Jn 12:27)
 - 3) God is obligated to fulfill His word. Christ's death was prophesied (Is 46:10; Is 53)
 - b. This was a prayer for God to d_____ His plan.
 - 1) Jesus did not know the **exact** t_____ that He would have to give Himself up (Jesus knew what only the Father told Him – see Lk 2:52).
 - 2) Jesus was not going to enjoy the suffering, so He asked for a delay.
 2. He ended the prayer r_____ Himself to what the Father wanted – *Yet not as I will, but as You will.*
- Whenever you are conflicted in your thinking, your feelings, and/or your will you need to p_____ (making major life decisions)
 1. It is okay to voice to God what you w_____.
 - a. I did not want to be a pastor.
 - b. I was frustrated about finding the right woman to marry.
 - c. I wanted to be financially independent.
 2. But in the end you must r_____ yourself to what God wants.

- a. Pray and s_____ godly counsel.
- b. Pray and s_____ God's word.

●P_____ - f_____ **your spirit, not your flesh (41-44)**

1. In verse 41, the command is to k_____ watching and k_____ praying (the Greek text emphasizes an ongoing action as opposed to a one time action)
 - a. Jesus m_____ this in each of His prayer sessions with the Father. He kept praying until the temptation of focusing on what He wanted went away (see Phil 2:8).
 - b. Jesus has been tempted in a_____ ways that we have, yet never sinned (Heb 4:15).
2. When temptation comes
 - a. Do not f_____ with it – the tempter has one purpose, to steal something from you, to destroy something, or even to kill (Jn 10:10).
 - b. The believer has two natures – the new nature (the s_____) and the old nature (the f_____) - Col 2:10; Eph 4:24) – *the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.*
 - 1) The flesh is fed by t_____
 - 2) The spirit is fed by p_____ - so keep praying and be empowered.

●P_____ - f_____ **your purpose (45,46)**

1. After three hours of agonizing in prayer, Jesus received the answer from His Father. – *Let us be going. Look! The one who betrays me is at hand!*
 - a. It was time to be b_____.
 - b. It was time to g_____ Himself up and start that journey to the cross.
2. The Christian life is about pursuing the p_____ God has for you. Our purpose is to l_____ Him with our whole being (Matt 22:36) and do the g_____ works which He has ordained for us to do (Eph 2:10).
 - a. To be a l_____ to the unbelieving world (1 Pet 2:9; Matt 5:16)
 - b. The e_____ fellow-believers (Heb 10:24,25; 1 Pet 4:10,11)
 - c. To h_____ get the gospel out to the world (Matt 28:18-20).