

John 12:27-28 – Jesus Predicts His Death on the Cross

9/10/16 Sat Morn Prayer

HYMN # 149 – When I Survey The Wondrous Cross – Isaac Watts-Londonderry Choir

1. *When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.*
2. *Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.*
3. *See from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*
4. *Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

John 12:27-28 *"Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. [28] Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."*

Context/Biblical Background – After Lazarus was raised from the dead, the Jewish leaders decided that he must die, along with Jesus. We then have the triumphal entry four days before Passover; Jesus' story of the Fruitful Grain of Wheat and His prediction of His death on the cross:

Our Lord knew that He was facing suffering and death, and His humanity responded to this ordeal. His soul was troubled, not because He was questioning the Father's will, but because He was fully conscious of all that the Cross involved. Note that Jesus did not say, "What shall I do?" because He knew what He was ordained to do. He said, "What shall I say?" In the hour of suffering and surrender, there are only two prayers we can pray, either "Father, save me!" or "Father, glorify Thy name!"

JESUS PREDICTS HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS!

1 - (V. 27) With a troubled soul, Jesus prays: *"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: But for this purpose I came to this hour.*

Now is my soul troubled,....

- At the hardness and unbelief of the Jews, and the rejection of them, when the Gentiles would be called, and converted, by which He would be glorified:
- He had a foreknowledge of; at the betraying of Him by one, and the denial of Him by another, and the flight of them all from Him;
- and at the devil, and the furious and violent attack he knew he would make upon Him, though He had obliged him to leave Him, when He assaulted him before, and knew he could find nothing in him now, and that as God, He was able to destroy him; but this was to be done by Him, as man, and by lying too:
- He was in His human soul troubled at the thoughts of His death, though it was His Father's will, and He had agreed to it, and was for the salvation of his people, His heart was so much set upon; yet it was terrible to the human nature, and especially as attended with the wrath of God; at the apprehensions of which, His soul was exceedingly troubled; not as about to fall on Him on His Own personal account, but as being the surety of His people, and as having their sins upon Him to satisfy angry and injured justice for:
- Jesus received this crucial hour, yet it troubled Him because He knew what the agonies of the cross would involve.

and what shall I say?

- this question He puts, as being in the utmost distress, and difficulty, as if He knew not what to say; and yet not as advising with His disciples, what was to be said or done in his case; but is rather used to introduce another question, as the following words may be formed: shall I say,

father, save me from this hour?

- as requesting His Father, that He might be strengthened under His sufferings and death, and carried through them, and out of them; or rather as deprecating them, desiring the cup might pass from Him, as He afterwards did; and then the sense is, shall I put up such a petition to My Father, to save Me from sorrows, sufferings, and death? no, I will not: the human nature through frailty might prompt Him to it, and He be just going to do it, when He corrects himself, saying;
- Jesus was reluctant to go to the cross. In Hebrews we are told, "Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame" (Hebrews 12:2). He went only in obedience to the will of the Father. When in the garden as He was in agony in prayer, sweating as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground, He was praying, "Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless not what I will, but thy will, be done" (Luke 22:42). It was total submission to the will of the Father. And Jesus in now troubled because the shadow of the cross is now falling across the path that He will be walking in just a couple of days. And He's troubled, He's concerned about this. "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour:"

but for this cause came I unto this hour:

- But He did more than just pray, He then began to reason. Knowing this was the crucial hour, Jesus could not ask to escape the hour, because **for this purpose I came to this hour**. The cross, which had cast a shadow over the entire life and ministry of Jesus, would now become a reality in the life of Jesus.
- This is the purpose. God is working an eternal purpose through my suffering. It's for this cause I came into the world. I'm here to do the will of the Father, to drink the cup. And so He began to see the situation from the eternal perspective. And when our soul is troubled over our immediate problem, it is so good if we can put the problem in the light of eternity. And if we can see it from the eternal perspective, then as Paul the apostle we can say, We know that the present suffering is not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed. And this "light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working an exceeding eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:17). God is working out eternal purposes and His eternal plan though it may mean temporary suffering or pain or hardship, difficulty. But I see it in light of the eternal. And then there was finally that submission as Jesus said,

2. (V. 28) *Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.*

- ***Father, glorify thy name,....*** The perfections of His nature, particularly His justice and holiness, meaning in Himself; by His sufferings and death; intimating hereby, that His Father's glory was what He had in view, and that the securing of that would give Him an infinite pleasure amidst all His sorrows.
- The submission. From the prayer, "Save Me from this hour," to the submission, "Lord, glorify Thy name." You receive glory, Father. Though it may bring pain and suffering to Me, glorify Thy name. That's the submission to the will of God.
- I think that this is so important that we come to the place where we submit the issues to the Lord. Lord, You work. Glorify Your name. And then I have peace. Lord, whatever You want. I'm Yours. And if this suffering is serving an eternal purpose; fine, Lord. I'll accept it. If this trial is going to bring out eternal benefits, then fine, Lord.
- Paul the apostle in writing the second letter to the Corinthians said, "If I'm afflicted, it's for your benefit, that as I experience God's comfort in my affliction, so I'm able then to comfort you (2 Corinthians 1:3-6). It's very difficult for us to truly comfort or sympathize with someone unless we have gone through that experience ourselves. You don't really understand the pain and the hurt unless you've been there.
- So the commitment to the will of God. And Jesus committed Himself, "Father, glorify Thy name." It was at this point that the Father responded.

Then came there a voice from heaven;

- Then a voice came from heaven: This is the third audible Divine testimony to Jesus status as the Son of God, after the Divine voice at His baptism and His transfiguration.
- This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake: Jesus didn't need this confirmation, but it was for the benefit of the onlookers, especially the disciples.

saying, I have both, glorified it;

- meaning in the incarnation, ministry, obedience and miracles of Christ; and particularly in that late one in raising Lazarus from the dead:

and will glorify it again;

- by supporting Him under, and carrying Him through His sufferings and death, and by raising Him from the dead, and setting Him at His Own right hand.
- God's response to that total commitment to His will.

SUMMARY:

- **When in severe crisis:**
- **State your situation to the Lord-**
- **Okay to ask how to pray-**
- **Save me (not keep me from) this hour.**
- **But our purpose for our life is to glorify the Lord!!**

PRAY TODAY FOR: (Name persons, name things, take direct aim at the objective of your supplications)

- **Our Church, Nationally and locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; for kings and those in authority**
- **Our Current Pres/VP Candidates: Donald Trump; Hillary Clinton; Mike Pence; Tim Kaine**
- **Police officers/military & all those upholding law & order**
- **When in small groups - Personal Prayers:**

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