

## INTRODUCTION

\* Three weeks ago we turned to the final day of Jesus the Messiah's earthly life and ministry with the consideration of Judas' decision to betray Jesus. In the last two weeks we examined the Passover Seder that Jesus held with His disciples and Jesus' example of having a Servant's Heart (to lead by humbly serving).  
 \* Today, we look at Luke's account of Jesus warning His disciples of trouble that is coming, with specific warning to Simon Peter, followed by Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. This precedes what is coming next week: Judas' betrayal of Jesus, Jesus' arrest, and Peter's three denials of Jesus. These events are connected; Jesus' warning and example show us that prayer is the key to avoiding temptation, to successfully handling a troublesome situation, and that without it we are likely to succumb to temptation – Judas fails by going through with the betrayal, Peter fails by denying Christ.  
 \* The Greek words *peirazo* (verb) and *periasmos* (noun) mean "to try, to test, to tempt". Whether it is a test or a temptation depends on the motivation of the one bringing the troublesome situation (e.g. God, Satan, a friend, an enemy) and by the response of the one entering the troublesome situation. James 1:13b-14 says "for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed."

## INSTRUCTION

### I. Trouble – Some Background

Tribulation = Greek #2347 *thlipsis* → a pressing, pressing together, pressure

Good: Rom 5:3; Acts 14:22; Rom 12:12 Bad: Mt 13:21; 24:9,21,29; Jn 16:33; Rom 2:9

T\_\_\_\_\_ and T\_\_\_\_\_ = Greek #3985 *peirazo* (verb) Greek #3986 *periasmos* (noun)

→ to try, to test, to tempt (verbs) trial, test, temptation (nouns)

Pastor Bob's good rendering of it is Troublesome S\_\_\_\_\_

Good: Jn 6:6; 2 Cor 13:5; Heb 11:17; James 1:2; Rev 2:2,10; 3:10 Bad: Mt 4:1,3; Acts 5:9; 15:10; 1 Cor 7:5; 10:13; Gal 6:1; 1 Thes 3:5

### II. Warning of Trouble Coming Luke 22:31-38

1. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of S\_\_\_\_\_ v. 31-32 Jesus' Method:  
 John 13:31-38; Matthew 26:30-35; Mark 14:26-31 Jesus' Goal:

→ Pray for S\_\_\_\_\_ F\_\_\_\_\_

→ Strengthen / Establish / Encourage others who believe in Jesus

2. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of the F\_\_\_\_\_ v. 33-34; John 13:37; Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6  
 → Be Humble ... Cultivate Humility

3. The Pressure of the World v. 35-38  
 A C\_\_\_\_\_ Situation v. 35-36 A change in instructions v. 37 A change in presence  
 Isaiah 53:11-12

### III. Dealing With Trouble Luke 22:39-46

Jesus' Instruction: P\_\_\_\_\_ v. 39-40

Jesus' E\_\_\_\_\_: He Prayed v.41-45 Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42 Committed to Prayer Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16

The Disciples Slept v. 46 Matthew 26:40-41

Some Benefits of Prayer: Aligns my thoughts with God's thoughts  
 Helps me desire holiness

Brings wisdom  
 Brings peace

Brings guidance  
 Brings boldness

## INTROSPECTION

\* Are you committed to prayer? \* Do you pray for steadfast faith? \* Is prayer part of how you resist temptation?  
 \* Are you trying to strengthen, establish, and encourage fellow believers?  
 \* IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

## INTERACTION

\* In what ways can we help each other to "not enter into temptation"?  
 \* How could we better encourage one another to be committed to prayer? What helps you?