

THY WILL BE DONE

BY KAREN SANKOWSKI

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I have come to realize while praying for Brother Given, that saying: “Not my will but thine be done” is extremely difficult; when it involves someone you love and esteem so very much.

We find that when these words come to mind when praying for one of God's beloved saints; we hear them; yet we find ourselves choking on the words through our tears and can hardly bring ourselves to speak them aloud. The very thought of being absent from those you love even temporarily fills one with a great sense of void, sadness, loss and even fear.

We know our ultimate end as children of the Most High; yet while in this earthen vessel we fear, not knowing God's immediate decision; on the matters at hand.

Then I remembered Jesus; saying these very words to His Father. “Not my will but thine be done”.

This was extremely difficult for the Savior to utter these words! And He **KNEW** His Father's purposed plan in its entirety. He **knew** the Father whom He loved and who loved Him; would turn away from Him; because our sin was upon Him. **HE TASTED DEATH! FOR EVERY MAN.**

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. **Heb.2:9.**

HE WAS SEPARATED FROM HIS FATHER! He also knew the Father's great love toward US; knowing what it would take to reconcile the whole matter said: “Nevertheless, Not my will, but thine be done. Even this momentary absence would cause our Savior a deep sense of void and loss that He had never know before.

If this momentary absence from God caused this much void and grief to the Son of God, who is God's delight!; mankind dare not even toy with the thought of suffering this throughout eternity. But rather avoid it at all cost. Sobering thought.

The extreme difficulty of this statement for our Savior; is demonstrated in the accounts of the night when our precious Savior was in the garden of Gethsemane.

“**As the Son of Man**” Jesus became fearful; It's not that Jesus feared dieing; He feared in that He would be separated from His Father; so much so He knelt in prayer saying: ... My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death. ... And He went a little farther, and fell on His face, and prayed saying: O my Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me:... **Matt.26:38,39.**

In Luke's account Jesus said: Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: ... And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. **Lk.22:42-44.**

He knew that the hour had come when the Son of man **must** be delivered into the hands of sinful men. **Lk.24:7.**

Jesus was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. **Heb.4:15**. The limitations and the effects of the flesh are so strong, it even had an effect on the Son of man. But Praise God!! He that is in us is **GREATER** than he that is in the world. We have been given power over this flesh **And** the effects of this flesh. Because Jesus is our victorious Great High Priest and King!

Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him; from death, and was heard in that He feared: (here are the two accounts from the gospels) Though He were a Son! Yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered; And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him. Called of God, an High Priest after the order of Melchisedec. **Heb.5:7-10**.

In these two accounts Jesus told His disciples; watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: The temptations Jesus suffered in the garden DID NOT occur “As the Son of God. But in the days of His flesh; “As the Son of Man”.

Then summarizing, Jesus said: The Spirit is willing; but the flesh is weak. Jesus has experienced this for Himself! And ultimately For us! And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him. Called of God, an High Priest after the order of Melchisedec. He is truly our **GREAT HIGH PRIEST!!**

In John Chapter 12 Jesus said: 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. Father glorify thy name. **John 12:27**.
Another way of saying: Nevertheless not my will, but thine be done.

Redeemed men and women, are trusting in the God of their salvation; crying out to our God laying our cares before Him. We **know** He hears us; we **know** He cares for us and we **know** ultimately if we remain faithful; we will be in His presence forever. **Knowing** He does all things for our good; to them that love Him. So why does fear come upon us? It is one of the many downfalls of this earthen vessel. But nevertheless we too must surrender our will as Jesus did to the Father.

In these two accounts:

We see how the weakness of the flesh can agitate the souls of men to fear, doubt and agony.

We see the conflict between the flesh and the spirit.

We see Humility, in putting down the flesh (our will) and kneeling before our God for help.

And we see surrender; willingly surrendering our will to our God and Father; for His divine purpose.

For one to be able to voice these words: “Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done”; required Jesus to go through these temptations Himself. If Jesus hadn't gone through these temptations successfully; no man would ever be able to speak these words in faith, let alone with confidence.

It takes an enlarged faith to be able to speak these words aloud: “NEVERTHELESS NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE.” Jesus had this strong faith and we strive to attain such a faith as this.

My exhortation is this: Pray! Asking the Father to increase our Faith and trust in the God who loved us and the Son who willingly surrendered His will to the Father; for our sakes. **Amen**.

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