



PROPHECIES FOR TCOD - 11 - 04

DETAILS OF MY LIFE - Part 4

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(All prophecies are Jesus speaking)

Putting My Faith into Action

All through My life as a boy growing up on Earth, the Spirit was preparing Me and guiding Me. My faith was tested as a child. In My adolescence and on into My twenties, there were many tests I had to pass. All these experiences helped My faith to grow and prepared Me for yet bigger tests I would be faced with in the years to follow during My public ministry. Remember, I had to pass all the same tests that you have to pass. I had to go through the same as you; otherwise I would not be worthy to be called your High Priest. Otherwise I would not be able to fully understand you, empathize with you, and know the same feelings that you experience. There were no shortcuts for Me.

On the eve of launching out into the greatest part of My earthly ministry, I had to pass a big test in the wilderness. I had to defeat the Devil, who severely tempted Me with his "kingdoms of this world" scheme, the temptation of earthly riches and fleeting human power. He tempted Me with pride, with doubt, with hunger. Though I had a fierce time of it during those days and nights, with the help of My Father and His ministering angels, I pulled through. Those were special days there in the wilderness, for it was at that time that I committed Myself to stick to My calling.

It was out there in the wilderness that I, in effect, signed My "contract" to continue. That was when I renewed My oath of allegiance and subsequently received fresh vision, and that was when I received My new anointing for the public ministry I was about to begin. That was My time of renewal and of declaration when I reaffirmed to Heaven, and to the Devil as well, that I was going forward with the challenge to die for the sins of man.

Those days of testing were vicious, but I was soon to learn that those fierce battles during My time in the wilderness were not isolated, but they were the beginning tests to prepare Me for more tests of faith and the greater victories that would follow.

I know the thought of doing the impossible seems awesome through human eyes. I too was tempted when I faced impossible situations. As I progressed in My public ministry, when I began to fully realize all that would be expected of Me, there were times I felt like running away. In My carnal mind and way of thinking, I couldn't see how it would be possible to do some of the things that were expected of Me--to call on the power of Heaven while encased in human flesh, to perform miracles on Earth, to work impossibilities in the sight of man. On the other hand, I knew there was nowhere to run, and I prayed to My Father to help Me hold on.

It was not long after My public ministry began that another big test came. You know how it is when you think you have an idea of what something is going to be like. You're about to experience something new; you might have heard about it or read about it, so you enter some new phase of your life thinking you're well aware of what to expect. Take having a baby,

for example, or falling in love. You might have read up on it; maybe scores of others have told you about it and shared their own experiences with you, to where you think you have a pretty good handle on what it will be like when you experience the same. But then you find yourself in the middle of that experience and you discover it's much different than what you had expected. Well, that's what it was like for Me as I ventured out in My public ministry. In My carnal mind I thought I knew what to expect regarding My earthly life and ministry, but I soon found out that doing and experiencing were different than merely observing from afar.

As I stepped out into My new anointing, I found Myself surrounded with daunting tasks. The confines of the flesh, carnal thinking, and human emotions were a constant battle for Me, and I had to learn to cope and overcome. I was put to the test and found it necessary to demonstrate My faith often, to prove to the people that all things are possible with God. I came up against all sorts of surprises every day. Each experience was new and fresh, and each one taught Me a great deal--both about the physical world, as well as about the spiritual realities as seen through human eyes.

As I went about My business in those beginning days, I didn't expect the crowds to be so demanding right off. It wasn't until I was right in the middle of things that it dawned on Me that My ministry was going to snowball like it did. In just three short years, news of Me spread abroad. Little did I know from the day I performed that first miracle that things were going to develop so quickly.

Turning the Water into Wine

I'll never forget that day when I turned the water into wine. I had no idea My mother was going to call on Me like she did at that wedding in Cana. When she came and asked Me to do something about the wine, I felt put on the spot. I didn't "feel" prepared to perform a miracle, as is so often the case with human flesh. This was evident in My reply to My dear mother when I told her it wasn't My time. I as much as told her, "I'm not ready, Mom. What are you putting Me on the spot for, anyhow?" Bless her heart, even though I was lacking in confidence at that moment, she didn't lose faith in Me. She had complete trust that I was going to pull through. Her faith was so strong that she told the servants to get ready, to be prepared to do whatever I asked them to do.

As many of you have experienced by now, whenever a miracle is needed, most often you're on the spot! You find yourself in a tight corner, in the middle of an impossible situation or predicament. You don't know what on earth to do, so you're driven to seek My assistance--and boom--a miracle is born!

That's pretty much how it unfolded with Me right then. I was on the spot, I had to stretch My faith, and a miracle took place that day. The Spirit of My Father moved in Me, convicting My heart, and I'm thankful I didn't brush it aside. The need was there, and it was, in fact, My time.

From then on, as My Father began to work more miracles through Me, I was driven to greater desperation. After that first visible miracle in Cana, I could see the handwriting on the

wall; I caught a glimpse of what My public ministry would entail. I knew that the press and the demands of the people would only continue to grow. I knew the need, and I felt incapable of meeting that need in My flesh. I knew I had been called to put My faith into action, but I didn't "feel" capable of dealing with it in My flesh.

My Father had given Me a new anointing when I stood the tests of faith in the wilderness. I knew He wouldn't fail Me. But as all this was unfolding before Me, I knew I needed to get down to business and get some answers and direction, as well as something to hold on to for My Own peace of mind and spirit. I knew I had to sort things out in My mind and heart. It was not that I expected to understand everything with My carnal mind at the time, but I knew I needed some word from My Father, something to spark My faith, something to hold on to.

You could say I was passing through My Own crisis of faith at the time. My faith was being sorely tested. I needed help. So I desperately called out to My Father, and when I did, He called Me aside. He told Me to come up into the mountain by Myself. At that time, I had one of the most serious of all conversations (in My human life) with My Father, and it was there He presented Me with one of the most prized of all possessions. What My Father gave Me at that point in My ministry, I am about to give to you now; but before I do so, listen carefully.

A Boost from the Father to Fulfill My Destiny!

Up until this time I had passed the needed tests and made decisions and choices that brought Me to the point I was at. I chose to fulfill My calling, yet in order to continue in My calling, My Father found it necessary to make some changes and give Me some special gifts in order to facilitate My mission. He had already given Me a fresh new anointing for the job at hand. He had enhanced the gift of faith in My human heart, just as I have increased the same in your heart now. But it was My responsibility to do something with that increase of faith I had been given. I had to believe it. I had to access it. I had to act on it. I chose to do so. I made the right choices, and even though there were times I felt like giving up, I didn't; I held on to My faith.

Some of you might picture this "holding on to faith" in different ways, but when I say I held on tightly to My faith, I didn't just sit there "holding on" for dear life waiting for something to happen. Hold on to it I did, but I did it as I was on the go, putting that faith into action. I held it tight, all right, but I held tight as I was on the run doing the things that natural man said could not be done. I wasn't only holding on to My faith, I was proving My faith, putting it to good use, exercising it, stretching it, acting on it at every opportunity that presented itself. I always had to do My part.

What My Father presented Me with at that time helped Me to put My faith into action. What He was about to put in My hands gave Me courage to trust and obey where He was leading. What He was entrusting Me with was the means to get the job done, and this boosted My faith into action.

In that moment He gave Me the keys to both Heaven and Hell--the keys to unleash the

power of Heaven and to leash any power of Hell. He gave Me full access to every power source of Heaven, the code to unlock every solution, the means to bypass all impossibilities. He didn't just give Me keys to designated sectors or portions, but He gave Me full and unlimited access--all the keys to Heavenly resources.

Now My Father was giving Me full possession. I held at My fingertips the ability to unlock everything, to have understanding of every situation, to understand when necessary every thought and intent of every heart, to release all of Heaven's power and bind all of Satan's power, should it be necessary.

My Father did this because He was going to expect more out of Me in My public ministry. Before that, I had access to Heaven, all right, but now I had complete access--no holds barred. This was because I had passed the tests thus far and could be trusted to continue. It was because I merited this help from Heaven, and My mission was crucial to the saving of mankind; thus it was necessary to equip Me with such access.

All power was given Me in Heaven and in Earth. I had the power within Me all along, just as you have had, for you were ordained and chosen since the beginning of time. So actually, in a sense, I already possessed the keys, but what happened in that moment, in terms you can understand, is that My Father enhanced My gift of faith and turned on My activation key, enabling Me to access the full power! I was equipped from the beginning, but now I would be able to access all power. All I had to do was My part--to believe and to take action. All I had to do was access the key codes, which I possessed. Much like you do today in accessing information on a computer; you punch in the right code and you're able to access all you need to know. It was that simple. ⁽¹⁾

“Disciples Only” Miracles

My early disciples recorded many of the miracles My Father did on My behalf, but they did not record some of the more "for disciples only" miracles that I performed, for these would have been either too much for those outside our intimate circle to comprehend and receive, or not wise to disclose at the time for security's sake.

Often it was necessary for Me to pull down miracles of amazing protection and supply from Heaven so that My disciples and I could continue our work. It is written that I walked through the crowds unnoticed, and I also found it necessary to call on Heaven for great miracles of protection in order to blind the eyes of both the Romans and our enemies from noticing our presence.

One time as we were camped out under the trees in a certain field, Roman soldiers were passing by. As it was the custom at the time to round up would-be troublemakers--and in Roman eyes we certainly fit this bill--had those soldiers spotted us that night, our ministry would have been prematurely ended. So I prayed and asked My Father to do a miracle so they would not see us. As the soldiers rode by in full view of our camp, instead of spotting us, their eyes beheld a lake of calm waters with only an occasional mother duck and her ducklings gliding by. This was not a facade nor an optical illusion, but a miracle of Heavenly power.

Today some people might call this a mirage. Scientists theorize and try to explain it away. "An illusion," they call it; "a trick of the eye." Don't be fooled with the "explain away" theories of Satan. I worked many "mirage" miracles during My time on Earth, as I still do today if you have faith and pray!

Peter, James, and his brother John were well deserving of the blessing My Father gave them that day on the mountain when the glory of Heaven shone on Me, and Moses and Elias appeared. I knew I could well trust them after that time, because they followed closely and carried out My request to keep their silence about the incident, as I requested.

Because of this, it wasn't many weeks after I was transfigured before them that I took them up to that same mountain. It so happened at the time that these same three, Peter, James, and John, were each going through a special time, and I wanted to give them some extra encouragement. As we returned that night to the same spot on the mountain, I looked up to My Father and asked Him to open the windows of Heaven to these faithful ones whom I loved so dearly.

They got a good taste of Heaven that night as we were translated into the Heavenly realm for a time of praise and fellowship and Heavenly festivity as only Heaven can provide--including dancing with the houris of Heaven! This was a special miracle from My Father's hand to allow them this Heavenly tour and a taste of Heaven's delights in this way. Needless to say, this event kindled a burning fire within them and gave them a well-deserved boost and strength and inspiration to carry on! It was also a touch of love from My Father to Me, and strengthened Me for the days I was soon to face in Pilate's court.

Miracles of Healing Hearts!

Walking on the water, even raising Lazarus' fleshly body from the dead, were great miracles, but these obvious signs and wonders were not as great as some of the less-obvious-at-first-sight miracles which My Father worked on My behalf in the hearts of men. Walking on the water and turning water into wine was supernatural, yet the miracle of changing a hardened heart was a far greater wonder and proof of Our divinity.

These miracles of healing hearts which My Father worked through Me, and that I in turn work through you today, are the divine work of My hand. False science appears to work great things, but only I can touch a hardened heart. Yes, I did many wondrous acts of raising dead flesh and turning the water to wine, multiplying the food, healing bodies, and calming the angry sea, but it was the less showy, the apparently unseen miracles, that were My greatest works--those performed in the hearts of men.

As Solomon asked, "Who can bear a wounded spirit?" Only My miracle-working power can touch and heal a wounded spirit. I worked many miracles in the hearts and spirits of men, women, and children when I walked on Earth, as I still work in the hearts of men today, and these truly are My favorite miracles. ⁽²⁾

What People Need Most

There were many times when I wished I could have done more, when I saw the multitudes and was moved with compassion upon them, because they fainted and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd; when I lifted up My voice and cried, "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered you under My wings, as a hen gathers her chicks, but ye would not" (Matthew 9:36; 23:37).

I felt a burden, a despair, a heavy feeling in My heart-longing that all the problems, all the hardships, all the pain, could just be lifted and taken away, but I knew that this was not the answer. Sure, I could heal some, and I could perform miracles to feed the hungry sometimes, but that was not the world's greatest need. These miracles were what they needed to see so that they could believe My Words and know that a prophet had been among them. But their greatest needs were not these physical things, although they certainly seemed the most desperate and immediate needs. Their greatest need was to know that God loved them, that I loved them.

They needed to know that God was not some Pharisee or Sadducee or rabbi who constantly quoted laws and rules and regulations. They needed to see God as their Father, a kind and loving Father, One Who loved them more than they knew, and Who longed to set them free from the dry letter of the law, the ritual sacrifices and ceremonial offerings, and give them the certainty of salvation.

That is why He sent Me to you, to feel your pain, to know your burdens, to be touched with the feelings of your infirmities, and finally, to give My life for you, that by My blood you would live, by My broken body you could be healed, by My sacrifice you could be set free from the burdens of sin, and translated into the Kingdom of God.

This was the salvation you needed most-freedom from that spiritual bondage of the soul, even more than healing from the nagging afflictions of the flesh. ⁽³⁾

Mary and Martha

Mary sat at My feet, hearing My Words and loving Me. Martha meanwhile was rushing about. I said to her, "Thou art troubled with many things" (Luke 10:38-42). What did I mean? The many things were all the jobs and busy things she had her eyes on-so much to do, and the work never -ended! Why was she troubled by them? Because she thought in her own carnal reasoning that if she didn't do it, who would? No one. Thus she needed to do it.

She left Me out of her reasoning. She gave her work top priority, so she had to trust in her own logic about the situation. She left out the fact that through the workings of the spirit, I and My heavenly helpers could intercede and come to her aid and work out what I call those "other things," and what she called "priorities."

She had her eyes on the flesh and her mind in the carnal realm, and she forgot about the spirit. How could she forget about My marvelous Spirit after all the wonders of the Spirit she had already seen? Because she got her eyes and mind off Me. She was looking at

everything else around her, and getting herself in a tizzy about things-caught up in a whirl of her own righteousness, of how she thought things should be, and even how she thought I wanted things to be-but she wasn't attuned to what I really wanted: her time and attention.

Martha did have the right idea about caring for others and loving them, and wanted to show Me that love through her works-except that I had something very new and special that day to add to the depth of her faith and spiritual experience.

As I shared with Mary about how important it was that we not get entangled with the things of this world so we can keep our eyes on Heaven and rise above, Martha was running around being the dandy bad example of everything I was teaching Mary that day. As Mary gazed into My eyes in wonder and understanding, swimming deeply in the cool waters of My Spirit, never wanting to leave that place in time or space-that's when Martha could stand it no longer and interrupted-"Jesus, ask Mary to help me! She's just sitting there. Don't You care about me?"

Our dear sweet original Martha has learned so much since that famous example that has gone down in history-both on Earth and since coming to Heaven. She is now one of My many "Marys" in Heaven. She doesn't feel bad when people quote the example of her mistake from the Bible, because she wants to do anything possible to help others not to make the same serious mistake of putting the Master's service before the Master. You'll be so amazed when you meet her Here-you'll wonder indeed, "Is that you, Martha?" for she has overcome. She puts loving Me and spending time with Me in first place. She's a wonderful example to many. ⁽⁴⁾

Lazarus - "Rest in Spite of"

"Rest in spite of" is the quality I had, and what I manifested when I heard that one of My closest friends on Earth neared death. When I heard of Lazarus' illness, I was tempted to be beset with the burden and the weight and the sorrow of it all. I was tempted to rush to his side and give him My healing power. I was tempted to tend to the matter immediately; he was so close to My heart.

But My Father brought this quality to the fore in those pivotal moments, and that is how, despite the gravity of the physical situation, I was able to take My time, to rest, to relax, to eat with friends, to continue to witness, to even wait a few days before making My way to tend to this very desperate situation. This is how I was able to portray a spirit of peace, trust, and calm, even though the throngs around Me were frantic and seriously judgmental of My decision.

And then, even when I arrived at the scene, the multitudes accused Me of not caring for My friend, of purposely delaying My journey so that Lazarus would die. But despite the tears of Mary and Martha, despite the doubts of My disciples, My faith remained strong, because I had rested in My Father prior to tending to this matter. I had yielded to His timetable. I had "rested in spite of" all the turmoil that surrounded Me. And because of this, I had the faith that the miracles that I needed that day would be performed.

Of course, I was still moved, and I wept. I didn't weep out of doubt, but I wept out of emotion, out of deep feeling for My loved one. But more so for those who doubted Me, who doubted My love, and who accused Me without knowing the full matter.

And that's when the miracle happened. That's when I brought life to the dead. That's when I proved, once again, the power of My Father, and that's how many more came to know of His love and His salvation.

And this gift will bring the same results to you. This "rest in spite of" will teach you to rest even though the throngs press about you with their needs and their emergencies, and yes, even their grave situations. And as you rest, My strength will be poured through you and will be transformed into miracle-working power, so that when you set out to see to those situations, miracles will happen at the touch of your faith. This is a gift that I want to give you, because it will make your life easier, and it will bring miracles.

Do you believe? Thank you for your belief, because this quality is very special to Me. Without it, I could not have performed My mission on Earth, and I know the same is true for you too. So I give it to you, from My heart to yours. I give you the gift that carried Me through. Let it carry you too.

Lessons of Faith Learned by Mary and Martha

If you find yourself in a trying situation where progress seems to be at a standstill, stagnated, or moving very, very slowly, the best thing you can do is to detach yourself from it emotionally and ask Me to help you rise above it and see the big picture. Ask Me to help you see it through My eyes, objectively and rationally.

Many times your emotions play a big part in the way you look at a situation and how you handle it and take care of it. This is just human nature. But the best thing is to detach yourself from the emotional aspect and ask Me to help you to see things the way I do.

Remember, I had to do this when I was there on Earth. When I heard the news that Lazarus was dead, I did not immediately jump up and run back to Mary and Martha in Bethany. I stayed two more days in the city I was in, as My work there was not yet finished. As you know, this deeply disappointed Mary and Martha, to the point that both Martha's and Mary's first words to Me when they came out to meet Me were accusatory, indicating that if I had been there, Lazarus would not have died (John 11:1-32). But as you know, and unbeknownst to Mary and Martha, God had an even more spectacular event in mind, which could only be accomplished by Me not running back to heal Lazarus while he was sick. All things did eventually work together for good, and a great victory was gotten out of a seeming impossibility.

But put yourself in the place of Mary or Martha. Those four days they waited for My return were very trying for them. Not only was their brother dead, but to them, I appeared to be uncaring and unsympathetic to their plight. As they saw later, I did have everything under control and all things did work together for good.

How well do you think you would have done under similar circumstances? Would you

have continued to trust Me, that I had everything under control and that the situation was going to turn out victorious--whether it was My will for Lazarus to die that day, or to be raised from the dead? Or would you have fretted, doubted, and gotten upset, and greeted Me with stinging words as Martha and Mary did? I do not blame them, and they felt very bad afterwards and apologized again and again when they finally realized what My plan was, and that all things turned out even more victorious than they could have imagined.

Having your faith tried in a difficult situation is never easy and never will be, and not something one looks forward to or would wish upon themselves. But it is during those times that you have to remind yourself over and over again that I am in control. I love you. You are My bride, I am your Husband, and I will never abandon you or desert you. I am with you through all things, both the good and the bad, and during those times of trial and tribulation I am right by your side, no matter how much you may think or feel I am not, or whatever lies the Enemy whispers in your ear.

This is when praise becomes your most powerful tool and weapon against the Enemy. Praise will lift you above the clouds and help you to see the situation more from My perspective than your own human earthly one. It sounds like an impossibility, but it is a promise that you can stand on.

I ride upon the wings of your praise. Therefore claiming the keys and praising in any situation, especially a negative situation, brings Me right to the forefront of the battle, where I draw out My sword and cut the Enemy to the heart. ⁽⁵⁾

Desperation Gets Results

When the woman with the issue of blood dragged herself through the crowd to wait in anticipation of My passing and reached out to touch the hem of My garment, that was desperation. She had no other hope. All that remained of her faith and strength was focused totally on that action.

Perhaps you don't have a clear picture of that event. This woman was not just being carried around on her bier. She didn't just get up and stroll over, casually waiting to touch Me as I passed by and then say, "Oh, how nice, I feel much better now." This poor woman had been bleeding for many years. Her body was emaciated. Her ability to walk had long passed.

This precious one had to literally drag her half-dead body across the ground, through the thick crowd, in agonizing pain to reach Me. It was frightening for her. She could have easily been trampled upon. All she could think of was the hem of My garment that she was determined to reach. She knew that if she could only touch the hem of My garment, she would be healed. She was desperate and she had faith.

She had a level of desperation that many have never even imagined. Even to reach out those inches to touch some part of My garment required tremendous effort on her part. It was her sheer desperation, born of faith, that wrought the miracle. Her need was so tremendous. This is why, at her touch, I felt the power of the Father flow through Me and into her. Her desperation evoked an equally strong bolt of the Father's power and Spirit that was channeled

through Me, to her (Mark 5:25-34).

It was blind Bartimaeus' pitiful cries which could not be silenced, cries of desperation from a tortured soul, desperate to be freed from the bonds of blindness, that drew Me to him and worked the miracle of his healing (Mark 10:46-52).

It was the desperation of the friends and family of the man with the palsy, watching him slowly shriveling up in agonizing pain, that prompted them to break a hole in the roof when they could not reach Me any other way, using every ounce of effort they could muster to bring him into My presence (Mark 2:1-12).

It was the utter desperation of many down through history who in times of great anguish or trial have cried out in desperation to Me and have received miraculous answers to prayer in direct response to the desperation of their heart. ⁽⁶⁾

Living with a Traitor

I spent My entire ministry with a traitor amongst My closest disciples. Judas didn't just suddenly make his choice. He had been recruited by his former friends, the Zealots, early on, to give them information on My every move and word. At first it was supposedly because the Zealots wanted to be sure that I was the Messiah. As time went on, the Zealots became more convinced that I was not going to lead them in a physical army against Rome, and finally that I was actually a threat to their plans because I was drawing away many who might otherwise have resorted to supporting them in their violent attempts at a revolution.

Judas was not always a snake in the grass. At first he thought he could convince the other Zealots to follow Me. He thought he'd found just who they were looking for and was there to make sure they knew as much about Me as possible. At first he felt he was loyal to both Me and the Zealots, but as time went on and they turned further and further away, his allegiance to his old compatriots became stronger than his loyalty to Me.

He became more and more critical of My actions as his Zealot friends clouded his vision with their interpretation of everything he reported, until in the final months he was convinced that I was a traitor to what his friends believed in, and therefore what he believed in. At this point he began interpreting everything I said and did by Satan's standards and perspective, and began disseminating it to the Zealots and even the Sanhedrin. He knew that the Pharisees and the Zealots were both looking for a way to rid themselves of Me and he enjoyed what he thought was his brilliance in pulling the wool over My eyes by being so close, when inside he'd chosen the darkness.

When I told him to go and do what he had to do, he suddenly realized that I had known all along who he was and what he was up to. This infuriated him, and in his rage he went and gave the last bits of information he had to those whom he was pretty sure would put an end to Me.

Afterwards, it began to sink in that for Me to have known all he was doing, I had to be who I said I was. He began to see things as they truly were, and then he tried to undo the horrors he'd unleashed. When he saw that he couldn't, he chose the coward's way. ⁽⁷⁾

Compassion for Peter

I was a Man of passion and drive, and I gave My all wholeheartedly toward any task My Father set before Me. I was willing to die daily for the sake of My Father's will. I counted it a privilege and blessing.

One day I saw the discouragement in Peter's eyes because he couldn't live up to My same passion and drive. We'd walked a day's journey in the heat, and even though it was late and most people were in bed for the night, I was set on doing one more thing. But when I saw the look in Peter's eyes, how that usual spark was missing, and heard the discouragement in his voice, I felt that if I pushed further I would be pushing beyond My Father's wiser judgment. I heard My Father's voice, "Son, it's time to relax. The work will be there tomorrow and I will give You the strength for it. Tonight I want to reward You for a job well done."

So we went to a friend's house and had a feast with wine and merriment. Instead of talking about the work ahead of us, I told Peter how much I needed him and appreciated his help and counsel, how I depended on him and valued his wisdom. You should have seen Peter's eyes the next day--bright as a shining star--and he was practically singing. The work was still important, but I couldn't do it without My valuable right arm--My disciples. ⁽⁸⁾

My Heart Broke for Peter

Look back for a moment to the hours before My death on Earth. As I sat with My disciples, My greatest pain was not that I would have to suffer and die, for I had been given the grace to endure what I was to face. But even greater at that moment was the pain in My heart for two who sat with Me. One was Judas--who I knew would betray Me, and when faced with what he had done, would choose to give up and take his own life rather than turn to the Father and cry out for forgiveness. And the other was Peter.

I knew the terrible test Peter was to face. My struggle would have seemed the greater one to his mind, but I understood the depths of despair he would face, the floods of Satan's lies that would be poured upon him, and how weak and confused he would be. For him, the testing was in some ways as great as My time in the garden that I faced some hours later. I understood that, and My heart broke for him. I saw his agony and felt its sting every bit as intensely as My Own.

If I could have, I would have taken his burden and tried to carry it Myself. But I knew that he had to pass through that time of agony if he was to become all that he needed to be. ⁽⁹⁾

Prayer Makes the Difference

Follow My example. What did I do when the Enemy was attacking My Apostle Peter with all of his might and furor in order to try to defeat him before he had even really begun his ministry? I prayed for him. I prayed earnestly and desperately, and My Father answered My prayer. Though Peter still had his tests and battles, things that he had to personally fight and overcome, My prayers for him had a tremendous effect; they made a huge difference (Luke 22:31-32).

The battles that Peter had to face and overcome were very big and daunting for him. They were extremely intense battles. The Enemy was pulling out all the stops to try to defeat him, because he knew what a detriment Peter would be to his plans. He knew what an effect Peter would have in his lifetime and through the work he began--a work that is carried on even to this day.

It was a fierce attack, and I prayed desperate, fervent prayers on his behalf. I battled for him in prayer, for his strength and protection, for his service to Me. I petitioned My Father on his behalf, I claimed him for My service in wholehearted prayer, and My Father did not fail to answer My prayer--just as I will not fail to answer the prayers that you pray for those who are being buffeted by the Enemy. Of course, the person will still need to make their choices; it's ultimately up to them! But oh, what a tremendous force for good you can be through prayer.
(10)

When I Hung on that Cross, I Paid it All

That night in the garden, before I went to the cross, I had to make the choice to willingly give My life. As I had told the people earlier, no man was doing this to Me, but I had made the choice Myself (John 10:17-18), and if I hadn't made it, My Father would have instantly sent a legion of angels to deliver Me. And, yes, He would have delivered Me. But I wouldn't have accomplished His highest will, and I would have failed in My mission to win you, My lost brethren.

I, the Lamb of God, was the only One Who could pay the price. I knew this, yet even then it was still difficult to give Myself as a sacrifice. It was still hard! As many times as I had made the decision to yield to My Father's will, the choice was still not easy. I had found out through experience that the choice to do My Father's will brought the highest results, so I knew which would be the right choice. But I asked My Father if there was any other way. When I received His answer, I bowed My head and asked for the grace to obey His will one more time (Matthew 26:39).⁽¹¹⁾

Do you think the battles that I faced in My last hours were easy? Can you imagine the intensity of a struggle that would cause you to sweat drops of blood, as I did in the Garden of Gethsemane? Can you imagine the agony that would cause Me to cry out to the Father as I did on the cross, "Why have You forsaken Me?" (Luke 22:44; Mat.27:46).⁽¹²⁾

I had to take it all the way to the end. If I had died by the wayside before I got to the cross, or if I had fainted in My mind spiritually and given up before My time, I would have failed. I would have failed you, I would have failed all mankind, I would have failed My Father, and I would have failed all the host of Heaven. I would have failed the whole purpose of creation! I was running a marathon. I saw the goal ahead, and I knew beyond the shadow of a doubt what that goal was and what I had to do to pace Myself to reach that goal.

If I hadn't reached that goal, it would have been in vain. Yes, I would have shown love to a few or even many people. I would have been the sample of love they needed to see. I would have fed them spiritually with My Father's Words. I would have healed many and convinced them that I was the Son of God. I would have done great works and encouraged many and been their friend and lifted them out of the doldrums. I would have made them happier and changed their lives and outlook for the better. But if I had failed to make it to the cross, it would have all been in vain!

I was the Lamb of God. There was no one else who could be that. If I had not made it that far, I would have failed in the one priority that was absolutely necessary, the one thing that had to be done even if nothing else was accomplished--to reach that cross and die for you. I had to put all else aside that in any way hindered that. Everything I did had to be in the direction of that goal. ⁽¹³⁾

I prepared My disciples for what they would see Me go through when I had to die on the cross. I encouraged them that it was all part of My Father's plan, and that it was something that I wanted to happen, and that had to happen, and even then they all took it pretty hard and it almost wrecked their faith. But in dying as I did, I fulfilled My Father's purpose and Mine. It was something that had to happen. ⁽¹⁴⁾

Behold, what manner of love I have toward you, in that while ye were yet sinners, I died for you. Ponder this simple fact and reflect upon the depth of My Love, that while ye were yet sinners, while ye were full of iniquity and filth, I died for you. So great is My Love for you that I could see beyond your weaknesses, beyond your sins, and I could see the beauty of My creation. I gave My Love for you, I gave My life for you. So is My Love. ⁽¹⁵⁾

Many a man and many a woman in the world have given their life for another. Many have suffered and died for a worthy cause--yet when I gave My life for you, I did not merely die for you. I not only suffered My Own hurt and pain, but it was given to Me to also take on your sufferings and pain. I came in the flesh that I might taste death for every man. I died more than a thousand deaths on that cross; I suffered more than the pain of one man. I died for every man, woman, and child who has ever walked the face of the Earth. I bore the pain of each one. I not only suffered My pain, but I felt your pain also, so that through My stripes you might be healed (Isaiah 53:5).

I took the pain, My children, of each of you, the suffering of each of you. I did not die for only one or feel for only one, but I died for all, I felt for all--each one's pain, each one's

suffering--so that you could have a way of escape. When you cast your burdens, your cares, your sufferings on Me, I will sustain you, because I already bore it for you. I already took on your pain and your sufferings, so that you, through My suffering, may be healed and delivered and find relief in your hour of need. ⁽¹⁶⁾

As I suffered, as I fought and bled and died for you, it was My great Love for you that sustained Me. Otherwise I never would have been able to bear the pain, the anguish, the heartache and the heartbreak, the horrors of death and dying all alone. Yet, for you, just you, it was worth it all! For I love you, and the very thought of you was My driving force, and this kept Me and gave Me hope.

As Pilate's lashes thrashed My back, with each blow I saw your face, and this sustained Me. As the soldiers spat on Me and mocked Me and thrust the crown of thorns onto My head, I could only see the light of your smile, and this gave Me strength to carry on. As I carried the cross through the streets, and as I fell to My knees, weak and weary with the burden of it all, My vision was blurred. Yet in that moment I could only recall how much I love you, and in this I found strength to carry on.

As I hung on the cross in shame and pain, and the feeling of defeat welled up inside of Me, yet I was able to overcome when I remembered that through this death I would wake to enjoy your love for all eternity. It was you, My love, just you, that kept Me going -- My Love for you, My concern for you, and My desire for you.

The thought of having you by My side for all eternity gave Me strength and faith to carry on. Your smile, your touch, the love I have in My heart for you, just you, is what kept Me going. My Love for you was My driving force, for I could not bear the thought of not having you by My side, the thought of losing you.

I love you from everlasting to everlasting, with so great a love! So great a love story is My Love for you! ⁽¹⁷⁾

For though it looked like a defeat for Me to be whipped and to be scourged, to be crowned with thorns, to be nailed to the cross, and even as I cried out, 'My God! My God! Why hast Thou forsaken Me?' yet My Father kept Me and brought Me forth in a great resurrection that changed the course of history and that changed all eternity. ⁽¹⁸⁾

My Father could not deliver Me from the cross, even though His entire being ached to release Me. The pain I felt, the suffering I endured, tore at His heart, He couldn't watch Me die on the cross. ⁽¹⁹⁾

Don't you think that if He could have, the Father would have come down and taken My place on the cross? The agony He felt at seeing what I had to suffer was every bit as painful for Him as it was for Me. But had He done so, He would have robbed Me of My bride-you! He would have taken away My crown, because it was in going through what I went through that I am now able to rule and reign and love you in a way that I could not have otherwise. ⁽²⁰⁾

When I hung on that cross, I paid it all. I endured your suffering that you might be freed, that you might never have to know death--and that you might also be relieved of pain in your hour of need. Therefore, My faithful ones have only to cast their burdens on Me. I already paid the price; I already bore the pain and the suffering upon My shoulders.

Therefore you have only to stand steadfast and know that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that I will reveal in you (Romans 8:18). This is the strong consolation that I give to My children--that should you suffer for My Name's sake, you will also receive great grace and glory to endure hardness, for I will keep you in your hour of need with the power of Heaven, and you will be crowned with glory and honor! ⁽²¹⁾

I was in the world as you are in the world, a human being, but I was not of the world--and this realization gave Me great faith and conviction. Knowing that I had something far greater, something of great price, something to be treasured above all that any human could ever even begin to imagine or think, was cause enough to keep Me on a straight path. I cherished My place and the mission I had as a human being greatly, and did not want to let My Heavenly Father down, nor you.

I knew I had a mission--that of saving you--and this spurred Me on. My stakes were high, as your stakes are high. I knew that in My frail human hands I held great power, for I held the truth of Heaven. In My human hands was the future of mankind, and this awesome realization kept Me going and desperate to obey My Father's voice, and as I did, I learned and grew in wisdom and in stature.

I was different from others, and this was obvious to those who were of understanding. I was the Light. "The light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not" (John 1:5). You, My children, are also different from those of the world, for I fill you with the light of My Spirit. As a city set on a hill, My light in you cannot be hid. I came to Earth on a mission from My Father in Heaven to bring the light to others, just as I send you, My children, on a mission to tell others of the glories of My Heavenly Kingdom that is soon to come on Earth.

I was a man of sorrows because I grieved over the corruption and perversion that reigned in the world. I grieved for the lost and the lonely and the needy in spirit. But at the same time, I rejoiced, for I had the light of Heaven in My heart. I was sorrowful, yet always rejoicing, for I knew the glories of Heaven and I knew that what My Father was asking of Me was worth every ounce of sacrifice required on My part. ⁽²²⁾

It took faith for Me to come to Earth and to believe that I could make a difference as a human. It took faith to believe in My Father's plan, that I could actually accomplish something as great as changing the course of the history of the world by the love I showed in living and dying for mankind. But My Father's plan worked!

It takes faith to believe that I have a plan for your life and that you are following it. It takes faith to believe that you are actually making a difference in the hearts and lives of others. But you will see, as I did with My Father's plan, that you are accomplishing My will and doing what I have called you to do. ⁽²³⁾

How I Overcame on the Cross with the Keys

(Jesus speaking:) I want you, My intimate brides, to shout the battle cry, hold high the keys, and move forward! Launch an attack! I ask you to wield your weapons today and demonstrate the same power I did when I overcame on the cross. This is the way I want you to praise and honor Me.--I want to see you fight in the power of the keys! This is the power that will set back the demons ... that besiege the Family worldwide. This is the power that will rise above to victory!

As I hung on the cross in agony, My flesh despairing, asking why My Father had forsaken Me, **it was the power of the keys of the Kingdom that gave Me the courage and faith to rise above the seemingly impossible circumstances I was in.**

As I trudged up the hill of Golgotha, as the nails pierced My hands, as I hung alongside common criminals, in My "natural" mind I had every reason in the world to believe I was a goner. All Hell was unleashed against Me, **but I was a step ahead because key power was running through Me, in My mind, in My heart, permeating My soul.**

When the battle raged fierce against Me, when it looked like the Enemy had the advantage, **I stayed ahead because I went on the offensive with the keys of the Kingdom, and key power propelled Me onward.**

I had already claimed key power for many miracles throughout My public ministry, but it was in that darkest hour that My Father taught Me further how to pray and use the keys in especially desperate times, so I would have the power, strength and grace to die the "sinner's death."

I had to put many keys to use, and when My physical strength ran so low that I could no longer hold My head up, **when My spirit began to sink to the point that I thought My Father had forsaken Me, that is when I had to hold on to the keys all the more. That is when I had to be determined to stand on the keys and not let up in claiming their power.**

In the carnal mind, the outlook for Me didn't look victorious for a while there, but it was! It was a tremendous victory! The very instant I gave up the ghost, I moved into the next phase of My "Operation Save Mankind."

The keys delivered the victory to Me, as I was released to visit the spirits in the depths of the Earth, to bring them the message of salvation before I returned to give My final talks to My disciples, and then move on to meet My Father. **The keys hold the power to rise from the dead, and they hold the power to defeat every demon of Hell--of which I am the living proof!**

Let Me teach you how to pray today, as I prayed when I hung on the cross. Say these words as you claim the keys and rise to victory:

I hold the keys; they cannot fail. I call on the keys; they cannot be stopped.

I stand on the power of the keys; I will rise above.

I unleash the power of the keys on you, Satan, and every demon in your domain! You have no power here, because the keys rule! I command you to leave in the power of the keys!

I will not doubt the keys. Though the outlook is dark, the keys will conquer all.

I release the power of the key of _____ [*fill in the blank with whatever key or keys you feel led to call on, depending on what you are praying for*] to fight this battle and win!

Deliver the power of the keys into my [our] hands. In the power of the keys of _____ and _____ [*name specific keys you're claiming*], I defy and resist the power of the rulers of the darkness of this world.

Stop! In the power of the keys of the Kingdom I command you, _____ [*name demon you're praying against*], to leave!

Do not hesitate to command the keys, My loves. Even when your carnal mind begins to waver or you grow tired, that is the time to fight all the harder in spirit and let your key power sustain you. When My physical body did not have an ounce of strength left in it, **I was still able to win the war in spirit, because I commanded the keys and they kept Me going.**

Thank you for uniting and fighting in spirit! Stand strong in the power and might of the keys of the Kingdom and you, along with those whom you uphold in prayer, will rise above to victory. (End of message from Jesus.)⁽²⁴⁾

While I was Resting with My Father on the Ship

Do you remember the account from My time on Earth when I was in the back of the ship resting in the midst of a terrible storm (Mark 4:37,38)? I wasn't just sleeping, but I was resting with My Father. I was spending time with Him away from the hustle and bustle of the storm about Me. I knew that My Father was in control. I knew that He would take care of the storm. And I knew that My time with Him was even more important than immediately seeing to the storm and calming it.

My attitude was right, My heart was right. I was fully focused on God and He was all that mattered to Me. Even when it seemed as if certain death battered our ship, I was not in a hurry, because My Father had asked Me to spend that time with Him and that was more important.

This is why I chided My disciples afterward, saying, "Why are you so fearful? How come you have so little faith?" I was in essence telling them that they too could've calmed the storm, or at least had faith through it, even if I hadn't solved the problem for them.

And it's much the same for you, My loves. Regardless of what is happening about you, if I show you to come away and spend that important time with Me, then that is the most important thing you could be doing at that time. I'm in control, and in My time and way I will calm the storms and help you to see to all that needs to get done--once you've been faithful to spend time with Me.

So come apart, come deeper into the cave, and learn to commune with Me more deeply. Learn to desire Me more. Learn to light your candle of desire so that you can discover new spiritual terrain during your precious times with Me.

You can do it. I wouldn't ask this step of you if it was too hard for you to take. I know you can take it, but more than that, I know that it's necessary for you to take it. Even I could not have calmed the storm if I hadn't first spent that time with My Father. Neither will you be able to do what I'm asking of you if you don't take that time with Me first.

And to help you to take this step, I have created a tailor-made key for each of you. This will be ***your personal key to the deeper halls of communion with Me***. Ask Me what your personal key is and how you can wield the power it manifests. I might give you the key of calm, the key of mental rest, the key of positive heartitude, or the key of deeper desire, etc. Whatever I show you is your key, claim it at the start of your times with Me.

I know what you personally need most in order to make your times with Me the times of deeper communion that they must be. So seek Me and ask Me--or you can even put in a request and tell Me what qualities you feel you're in need of and what key you'd like to have. I'll be sure to give you just what you need.

It's important to Me that you grow in this way, but also that you feel the inspiration and desire to grow, that you believe it can be done and that you put forth the will and effort to do it. In many cases, the key I have for you will help to instill within you this desire and yearning for more of Me and My Spirit. Just ask Me, My sweethearts, and I will give you all that you need.⁽²⁵⁾

Find the eye of the hurricane, that special spot where there is perfect calm and quiet. Find that place with Me where, even though the world around you is being tossed about and turned upside-down, you still have peace in the midst of the storm. It takes practice to find the eye of the hurricane, but if you are faithful with your times with Me, resting in Me, dwelling in Me, loving Me, praising Me, and thinking of Me, you will always be able to find that "secret place," where nothing will be able to touch you.⁽²⁶⁾

Faithful, consistent, quality time with Me is the key to everything else in life. It's the key to productivity. It's the key to wisdom. It's the key to having your works remain, rather than being destroyed by the first opposing storm (Mat.7:24-27). It's the key to My blessing. It's the key to leading a balanced life. It's the key to happiness. It's the key to loving and fruitful relationships with co-workers or loved ones. It's the key to everything good!⁽²⁷⁾

1. The Keys to the Kingdom #3318:7-27
2. Intimate Details of My Life! #3268:42-51
3. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 1 #3546:61-65
4. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 2 #3548:22-27
5. Jesus' Life On Earth, Part 4 #3604:60-74
6. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 1 #3546:54-60
7. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:13-17
8. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:39-41
9. Jesus' Life On Earth, Part 4 #3604:39-41
10. Jesus' Life On Earth, Part 4 #3604:26-28
11. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:18, 19
12. Faith--Now and Forever! #3699:61
13. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:36-38
14. Gold, Roses, And Thorns! #3639:29, 30
15. A New Day of Love! #3011:41
16. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:26, 27
17. My Heart Belongs to You! #3080:26-30
18. Let Jesus Bear the Weight! #2987:79
19. Finding Beauty in the Collage of Life! #3598:55
20. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 2 #3548:31
21. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 3 #3561:28, 29
22. Jesus' Life on Earth, Part 1 #3546:13-16
23. Words Of Wisdom, Part 1 #3614:92, 93
24. Brazil National Prayer Day, # 3456: 72 -82
25. Resting in the Lord, ML 3621c:426-434
26. Words to Meditate, ML 3622:25
27. Quality Word Time - Part 1, ML 3549:7