

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: [Mark 14:32-42](#).
- B. There are two very important parts of each human being that need to be understood. They are; the spirit and the will.
- C. Simple definitions of these two human attributes are:
 - 1. The spirit: the self-esteem or personal worth that one has about him/herself. It is very fragile at all ages and must be handled with care.
 - 2. The will: an intellectual component that reaches for control of the surrounding environment, closely akin to selfishness.
- D. The key to a happy life is--to break the will w/o damaging the spirit.

II. THE SPIRIT AND THE WILL.

- A. The following do great damage to the spirit (self-esteem), and this damage is not easily repaired:
 - 1. To say to a person, "you are stupid," or "you fool."
 - 2. To say to a person, "you can't do anything right."
 - 3. Parents sometimes refer to one of their children as "their mistake."
- B. Some examples of what to say that does not damage the spirit but helps to break the will are:
 - 1. "That was a foolish thing to do," or "I wish you hadn't done that."
 - 2. "You are a good boy/girl, but why did you do this bad thing."
- C. The difference above is that one set of statements attacks the person (spirit, self-image) while the other set of statements deals with the actions or behavior.
- D. Again, we need to shape the spirit and break the will. Once the spirit is broken it is very difficult to rebuild. The will should be the thing broken, never to be rebuilt.
- E. Throughout the Bible we see that God places a high value on man. The importance, sanctity and value of human life is second to none (Psa. 139:14; Mt. 16:24; 12:9-13).
[\(Psa 139:14\)](#) I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Thy works, And my soul knows it very well.
[\(Mt 12:9-13\)](#) And departing from there, He went into their synagogue. [10] And behold, *there was* a man with a withered hand. And they questioned Him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"-- in order that they might accuse Him. [11] And He said to them, "What man shall there be among you, who shall have one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will he not take hold of it, and lift it out? [12] "Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." [13] Then He said[^] to the man, "Stretch out your hand!" And he stretched it out, and it was restored to normal, like the other.
[\(Mt 16:24\)](#) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.
- F. The will must be broken; crucified for us to live as we should as human beings and as Xians.
- G. As the Bible says that Jesus "learned obedience by that which He suffered" (Heb. 5:8); I believe that Jesus, had to learn to crucify His will.

III. JESUS IN GETHSEMANE.

- A. Scripture text shows us a time when Jesus had to deal with His humanity in full.
- B. Talk about pressure! Have you ever said, "I feel like I have the weight of the whole world on my shoulders..." well, Jesus did!
- C. Jesus was deity, so He already knew that it was the Father's will that He die by crucifixion. But Jesus was also human, and that means that He had to deal with His own will. A will that did not want to physically die.
- D. His disciples are of little help and support, for they keep falling asleep. Jesus must wrestle with His will, alone.

- E. He prays a second time, and now the prayer has softened a bit. Then, it seems to me (by virtue of Mt. 26:41,42) that in the third prayer He gives up and tells God most assuredly, “Thy will be done” (Mt. 26:45,46).
 (Mt. 26:41,42) “Keep watching and praying, that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” [42] He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, “My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Thy will be done.”
 (Mt. 26:45,46) Then He came[^] to the disciples, and said[^] to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. [46] “Arise, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!”

IV. THE FRUITS OF GETHSEMANE.

- A. There are some things that I can better understand when I know of how Jesus crucified His will in the Garden.
- B. First, I better understand how He could stand against all that happened to Him:
1. Standing before the illegal assemblies and courts, falsely accusing Him.
 2. Standing before the guards, who mocked and spit upon Him.
 3. Standing before the crowd who said, “Crucify Him, Crucify Him.”
 4. And even on the cross, saying, “Father forgive them....”
- C. He could do all of that because He was no longer doing His own will, “Thy will be done!”
- D. He could have called 10,000 angels! But he didn’t? Why? He wasn’t doing His own will! Jesus had a battle to fight at Gethsemane, and God won and that battle! This is why Jesus won the war at Calvary. Jesus would have never won the war at Calvary, unless He had lost the battle at Gethsemane.
- E. Second, I better understand what Jesus meant in Jn. 14:27 about the peace that He gives.
 “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.”
 When my life is crucified and I am doing God’s will (and not my own) then:
1. It makes no difference as to the material blessings or lack of them.
 2. It makes no difference as to what others have or do not have.
 3. It makes to difference as to how many tragedies I must go through in life... because,
IT IS NOT MY WILL BEING DONE!

V. WHERE IS YOUR GETHSEMANE?

- A. Each of us needs our own little garden of Gethsemane. We need to have an experience that is similar to that of Jesus so that we can crucify our will.
- B. Too many of us, I’m afraid, have been baptized which means we have been to Calvary, but we haven’t been to Gethsemane yet.
- C. You have been to Gethsemane if you have been; alone; in constant, agonizing prayer; and struggled with the crucifying of self (the will).
- D. As we extend heaven’s invitation in just a minute, ask yourself:
1. “Have you been to Calvary?” That is, have you been baptized?
 2. Then ask yourself, “Have you been to Gethsemane?” and crucified your will?

VI. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. If you haven’t been to Gethsemane--do so today? And, once you’ve gone there you have every right to go Calvary.
- B. If something keeps you from responding to the Lord today, then you’re doing your will, not God’s will. Respond to God’s will by obeying Jesus now.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.