

## It Would Be Better For Him If He Had Not Been Born

- Mat 26:1-5, 14-25, Mar 14:10-21, Luk 22:1-6 -

**\*\* Beginning Remarks**

**\*\* Scripture Reading: Mat 26:1-5, 14-25**

### ***1. It would be better for him if he had not been born <Mat26:24b>***

*More than anyone else, Judas was practical, smart, and sincere in what he did. However, his sincerity resulted in a more serious ending.*

*Though with the most blessed fellowship, he suffered the greatest condemnation. The Lord said, "it would be better for him if he had not been born"! Judas is not alone: with our spiritual eyes opened and looking from the Lord's perspective, we can see that most people, deceived, live out their lives.*

*猶大, 他的爲人作事, 比任何人更實際·聰明·認真, 但是他的認真卻使他跑進更嚴重的結局裏. 人身在最蒙恩的團契裏, 受到最大的咒詛, 主說, "那人不生在世上倒好"! 這種人生, 不但是猶大一人, 當我們開靈眼, 以主的眼光來看時, 大部分人的日子, 都是如此蒙騙著進行..*

#### **1) The Tragic Life of Judas**

- child of Satan <Joh 6: 70-71>/ greedy <Joh 12:6>/ critical of the extravagance on the Lord <Joh 12:4-5>/betraying the Lord<26:14-16, 48-50>/ could not repent but killed himself <Mat 27:3-10>/he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. <Act 1:18>

#### **2) The Kinds of People for whom "it would be better if they had not been born"**

① Those who give up on themselves => worry, fear, mentally ill → incapable of self-control → suicide; (increasing) # of suicides

② Those who seek a life of indulgence =>the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does <1Jo 2:16, Luk 16:19-31>

③ Those who seek religion =>seek man's goodness, man's righteousness /mysticism /devil worshipping <1Co 10:20>

④ Those, though already in church, are enemies of God =>chief priests, elders, scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees <Phi 3:2, Gal 1:6-9>

- The enemies (Satan) worm way into the church and gain control over believer; they steal, kill and destroy the sheep belonging to Jesus Christ...

- Persecution against Jesus Christ occurs mostly within the church..

#### **3) They have been deceived by the prince of the world**

- <Joh 10:10 上> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy....

- <Joh 14:30> for the prince of the world is coming. He has no hold on me...

- <Eph 2:2> when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient...

\* All those who have not heard the gospel and have not received the H.S. live under the evil spirit..

## **2. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him <Mat 26:24a>**

*The Lord said, “one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.” They were saddened, one by one they said to him, “Surely not I?” <Mar 14:19> (they have yet to gain confirmed evidence who they are and what relationship they have with the Lord) Though they had all said they would die with him <Mar 14:31>, they all fled leaving the Lord behind when they seized him, put him on trial and killed him. What a foolish group of apostles who had no self-knowledge of their own limits! All those who want to follow Christ must face what Christ was faced with. Christ today is faced with the same persecutions and tribulations everyday. In a similar vein, today’s saints and churches live amidst such spiritual battles.*

### **1) Christ must suffer and die and be raised.**

- The kings of the earth take their stand and rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.

<Psa 2:2>

- The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born....<Rev 12:1-12>

\* Since the days of Abel, the prince of this world (Satan, the devil, the evil spirit) continues to persecute Christ and his church.

### **2) God’s good will in “Christ’s afflictions, death and resurrection”**

-Was God unable to predict “the fall of the archangel and man? Is God unable to destroy all of the devil’s work?

Where is God’s good will?

-God’s end purpose is to “build the eternal kingdom with Christ as the king” and, through the work of Christ in world history, to destroy once for all the devil’s work. Christ has triumphed forever in his death and resurrection. The holy people who believe and follow him will receive a new life which is eternal and holy; they serve God by the power from him, thereby gaining eternal crowns...

### **3) How did Lord Christ face betrayal, afflictions and death? <Mat 26:24, 36-67, 27:11-32... >**

-In total and complete submission to God our Father’s good will, Christ prayed, “Yet not as I will, but as you will”.

-Neither did Christ resist “the crowd that wanted his murder”; instead, he had compassion for them and quietly submitted himself to the onset of his trial, afflictions, and death, one by one.

### **4) All those who want to follow Jesus Christ must take up their cross and follow him.**

-The more blessed the saints, the more set apart they will be vis-à-vis the motives of this world, its purpose and its method. /For saints who have already see “the glory and crown of the eternal kingdom”, how could they avoid “the battle in this world”? On the contrary, they will “fill up in their flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions”. <Col 1:24>

-Christ still lives today in the blessed saints, suffers afflictions with them, and leaves behind beautiful examples to strengthen later generations.

\*Those who know the mysteries have no fear of afflictions in their service, they cannot be accused. Instead, in their afflictions, they are able to 明白這奧秘的門徒, 不怕事奉中所遇到的苦難, 也不被控告, 在苦難中更是看見 “主加倍的慈

愛·主所喜悅·幫助” 的證據, 坦然無懼, 剛強壯膽地過 “得勝有餘” 的日子..

### 3. 非聖靈充滿不可的“跟隨主”

跟從主的秘訣 就在於“真要跟從主”；何謂“跟從主”？就是指：隨時隨地看見“主的同在·引導·幫助”，享受“從他來一切權能”的。我們如何能看見“看不見的主”，如何能享受“看不見的權柄和能力”？也如何能見證“看不見的主的作為”？那就是“無限聖靈”裏的奧秘了！

#### 1) 那些糊塗門徒的生命·能力的變化

- ① 看見了基督復活了，多明白了神的國的奧秘和將來要發生的事<徒 1:1-11>
- ② 按著主的吩咐<徒 1:4-8>，抓住基督的應許，恒切禱告了<徒 1:13-14>
- ③ 聖靈降臨在他們身上，他們得著了能力，見證“耶穌就是基督”了<徒 2:1-36>
- ④ 看見了昇天的基督仍然與他們同在，祂的話得著成全，得著許多另一群門徒<徒 2:37-47>
- ⑤ 門徒都背起自己的十字架，跟從主的道路了<徒 4:1-31, 5:17-42, 7:54-60...>

#### 2) 非聖靈充滿不可

- \* 徒 1:4-8 “你們不要離開耶路撒冷，要等候... 但聖靈降臨在你們的身上，你們必得著能力..”
- \* 你們明白有關聖靈的事麼？<林前 2 章>；原來你們就是聖靈的工作<林前 12:3, 弗 1:13-14, 林前 3:16>；你們不可叫聖靈擔憂<弗 4:30>，不可銷滅聖靈的感動<帖前 5:19>；所以要分別何為“肉體之事”和“聖靈之事”<加 5:16-24>，乃要時常被聖靈充滿<弗 5:18>，也要穿戴全副軍裝，靠著聖靈隨時多方禱告，隨時隨地要依賴聖靈的能力<弗 6:10-18>

#### 3) 如何享受“凡事得勝”的“跟從主”？

- ① 看透世人的被騙和困苦流離<太 9:35-38, 弗 2:1-3>
- ② 心意更新而變化，願意跟隨主的腳蹤<羅 12:1-2>
- ③ 在基督裏，得著“絕對的答案”<腓 1:12→ 1:20→ 2:5-11→ 3:7-14→ 4:4-7→ 4:9-13>
- ④ 穿戴全副軍裝，靠著聖靈隨時多方禱告<弗 6:10-18>
- ⑤ 看見主的帶領，保持剛強壯膽，歡喜快樂的心，凡事上順從主，見證主..<弗 5:15-21>

### \*\* 結束的話

#### \*\* 本週祭壇禱告題目 \*\*

- 1) 他們都被世界的王騙了：我有否看清“世上大部分的人，被世界的王(撒但)騙”的光景？思想：還未重生前，我的生命蒙騙的光景？帶著“大綱1 的小題2)”的眼光來判斷在我身邊人群的光景。
- 2) 基督被賣，受苦，受死，凡跟從耶穌基督的門徒，不能避免試探和逼迫：是否：我是個基督的門徒？就說，是否是個已決斷“不管任何情況，一生都為基督，榮神益人建國而活”的人？目前，在我生命生活裏，有否因基督的緣故所受的苦難·逼迫？
- 3) 非聖靈充滿不可的“跟隨主”：我有否已得了：在任何處境裏，隨時隨事，靠著聖靈，趕逐污鬼，得著從上頭以來一切能力的秘訣？在目前我所遭遇的問題裏，有否已得了主所賜“絕對的答案”？