



MESSAGE/SERIES:

“The Trial of Faith”

DATE: September 22, 2019

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Luke 22:31-34, 1 Peter 5:6-11, Job 1:6-12, John 17:6-17, Hebrews 7:25, 2 Corinthians 12:7-9, Amos 9:9

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[LUKE 22:31-34]

³¹ “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” ³³ Peter said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.” ³⁴ Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 22:31–34.

[1 PETER 5:6-11]

⁶ *Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,* ⁷ *casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.* ⁸ *Be sober-minded; be watchful. **Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.*** ⁹ *Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.* ¹⁰ *And **after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has***

called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ *To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 1 Pe 5:6–11.

BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:

“Sifting= The process of separating different substances, especially grain and chaff, normally by passing them through sieves. It is used as a symbol of judgment in which the good are separated from the evil.”

Martin H. Manser, *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies* (London: Martin Manser, 2009).



Myers, Richard. *Logos Bible Images*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012.

The Sifting of the Disciples- “Jesus does not seek to spare His disciples this sifting. It was not possible, for He must pass through death, and their hope was in Him. They cannot escape it: the flesh must be put to the test of death. But He prays for them, that the faith of the one, whom He especially names, may not fail. Simon, ardent in the flesh, was exposed more than all to the danger into which a false confidence in the flesh might lead him, but in which it could not sustain him. Being however the object of this grace on the Lord’s part, his fall would be the means of his strength.”

J. N. Darby, *Synopsis of the Books of the Bible: Matthew to John*. (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2008), 394.

Jesus’s Prayers for us- “The reason Peter had not been sifted into oblivion, the reason he repented and was restored, was Christ’s prayer for him: “But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail” (v. 32a). When Peter was indulging in his post

supper snooze in Gethsemane, Jesus prayed for him. In fact, Jesus had been praying for him since the beginning of their relationship. We all need the prayers of others—godly parents and siblings and friends. But behind all those prayers are the prayers Christ offers for us”

R. Kent Hughes, *Luke: That You May Know the Truth*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1998), 351–352.

*“Satan can provoke a conflict,
but he cannot determine its outcome”*
-M. Brockmuehl-

OUTLINE:

- I. **SATAN IS DEMANDS** (Luke 22:31, 1 Peter 5:6-11)
 - A. Satan’s Goal
 1. *Is to prevent the cross*
 2. *Is to prevent the disciples to abandon Christ Completely*
 3. *Is to prevent you from following Christ today*
 - B. Through the action of “Sifting”=Violent shaking for the purpose of destroying our faith
 - C. Satan is limited and God is sovereign

- II. **GOD IS CAUSATIVE** (Job 1:6-12)
 - A. God offers us up to trial sometimes
 - B. God has a plan for evil (though he is not the primary agent)
 1. *To display his attributes*
 2. *To display his grace*
 3. *To display our need*
 4. *To display His glory (evil is a backdrop)*

- III. **JESUS IS FAITHFUL** (Luke 22:32, John 17:6-17)
 - A. Jesus always prays for God's will therefore it is done
 - B. Jesus always prays/ intercedes for us
 - C. Jesus always acts out for our protection

- IV. **OUR INTENTIONS ARE ADMIRABLE** (Luke 22:33)
 - A. Peter never thought he could fall

B. Peter wanted to have strong faith without falling

V. **OUR FAITH IS PROVED TRUE** (Luke 22:32, 1 John 2:19)

A. Satan is defeated and God is still on the throne

B. Satan is restricted post Calvary

C. Our Faith is the target for God that we may affect others for the kingdom of God

D. Our Faith is not a boast of us holding on to God but God holding onto us

E. Peter would be used in a mighty way even though he failed

F. Our Faith Cannot fail

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----
Church,

We give the Devil way too much credit in this life. God is sovereign and not even the devil can operate without permission in the believers life. Whom God has called unto salvation is saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus and that faith is preserved. Jesus' ministry for us in heaven is intercessor where He and the Father work on our behalf to protect our faith and grow it from faith to faith. Peter thought he could do it on his own or that his faith was strong enough, but God allowed Satan to attack him and when he fell all the selfish ambition was cut away so that His faith might be in Jesus alone. God has ordained that the tough things in life be used to grow your faith through a process of fire... burning away the junk and leaving us with nothing but Jesus. He will always prove to be enough in every Situation. Are you struggling with why things are happening the way they are? Is God still on the throne? Yes, He is and there is a purpose in God's allowing or even offering you up to the enemy... So that your faith may not fail and that you may be a better tool in the kingdom of God. Be strengthened in God who is Lord over all and embrace the journey of Faith!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Michael

