

IT IS WRITTEN



David Wilkerson February 13, 2015

"It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). "It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God" (4:7). "For it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (4:10). When Jesus was confronted with the devil's schemes, He overcame them with God's Word.

Today we have yet another, "It is written"—"I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not" (Luke 22:32). You can tell the devil, "You may try to tear down my faith, but you need to know this: my Jesus is praying for me!"

Peter's faith was tested, shaken, and because of his pride he stumbled. But in answer to the Master's prayer, the roots of his faith had not been destroyed. Just when Satan was shouting with glee and it looked as if the Lord has lost an anointed friend, Peter looked into the eyes of Jesus and melted! "And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. . . . And Peter went out, and wept bitterly" (Luke 22:61-62).

"Wept bitterly" in Greek means "a piercing, violent cry." "And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice" (22:61). I picture this man walking toward the Judean hills, falling on his face with hands outstretched, crying, "Oh, Father, He was so right! I did not listen. He warned me that Satan would attempt to destroy my faith. Die for Jesus? Why, I couldn't even stand up to a maid! Forgive me! I love Him! To whom shall I go?"

I believe Peter's faith took hold of something else Jesus had said: "And when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:32). How many times did Peter play this over in his mind and heart, pondering to himself, "Didn't Jesus say converted? Didn't He say I still had a ministry? After what I did, I'm supposed to help others?"

God answered His Son's prayer. I can see Peter standing up with the Spirit of God flowing through him, hands raised to the sky, saying, "Satan, be gone! I failed Him, but I still love Him. He promised—in fact, He prophesied—that I would come back and be a strength to others, a rock. I'm going back to my brothers and sisters!"

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